



KAKEGURUI

Kakegurui

1

STORY: HOMURA KAWAMOTO
ART: TORU NAOMURA

COMPULSIVE GAMBLER



Ka
Te
gu
ru
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1

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K
A
K
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G
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U
I

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I...I
RAISE!

TEN
CHIPS!

IN THIS
POKER
GAME,
CHIPS
ARE
WORTH
10,000
YEN.

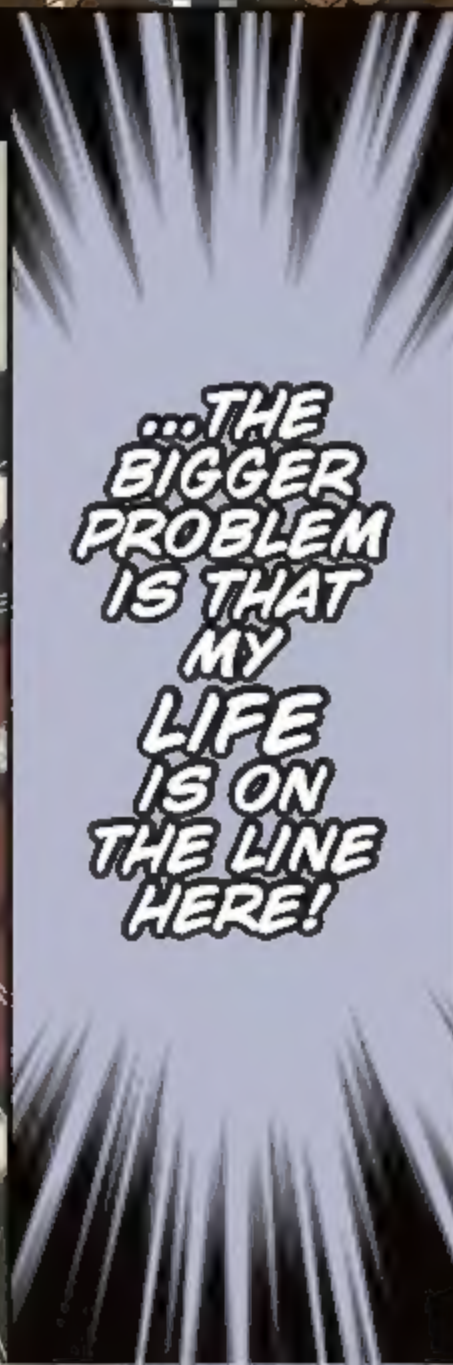


...I
CAN DO
IT.

WITH
THIS
HAND...

SHOW-
DOWN!

I'VE
GOT A
FULL
HOUSE
...!



...THE
BIGGER
PROBLEM
IS THAT
MY
LIFE
IS ON
THE LINE
HERE!



...
I
CALL.

THIS
IS A LOT
OF MONEY,
BUT MORE
IMPORTANTLY
...



TOO
BAD!

THANK
YOU
FOR
THE
GREAT
GAME!



AH
HA!



A R.....
ROYAL
FLUSH
.....!?

UGH
....!



YOU'VE
BEEN
THROUGH
QUITE
A LOT
TODAY...

WELL
.....

BUT
KEEP
YOUR
SPIRITS
UP!

'KAY,
"FIDO"?



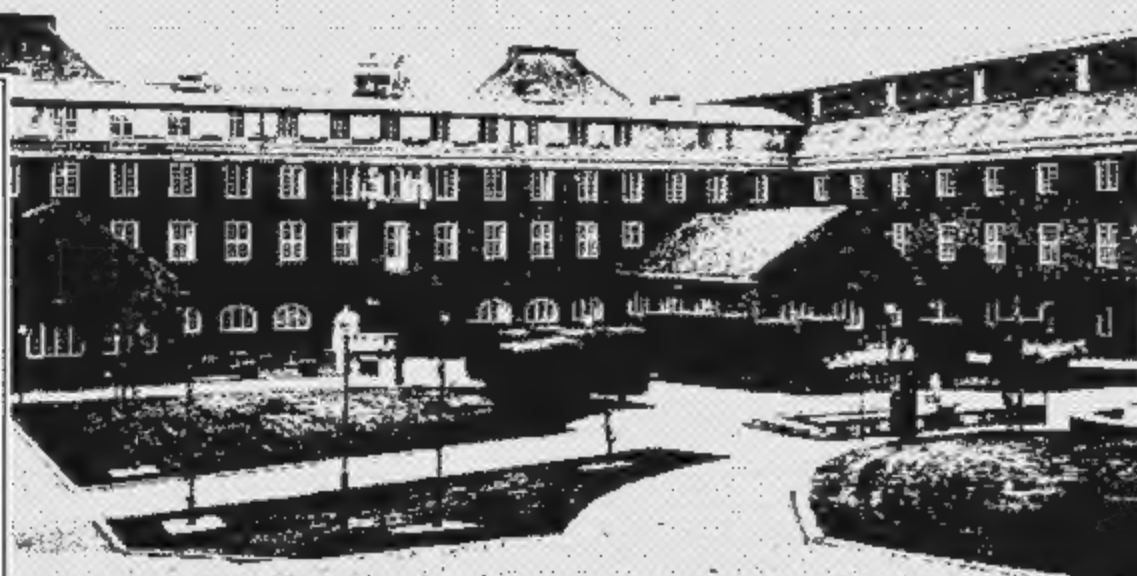
AND FROM
THAT DAY
FORWARD,
I WAS NO
LONGER
CONSIDERED
A PERSON.



CHAPTER ONE
A GIRL NAMED
YUMEKO JABAMI

APPROACHING THE 122ND ANNIVERSARY OF ITS CONSTRUCTION, THIS ACADEMY IS KNOWN FOR TRADITION AND SOCIAL STATUS. THE CHILDREN OF MANY INFLUENTIAL BUSINESSMEN AND POLITICIANS ARE ENROLLED HERE.

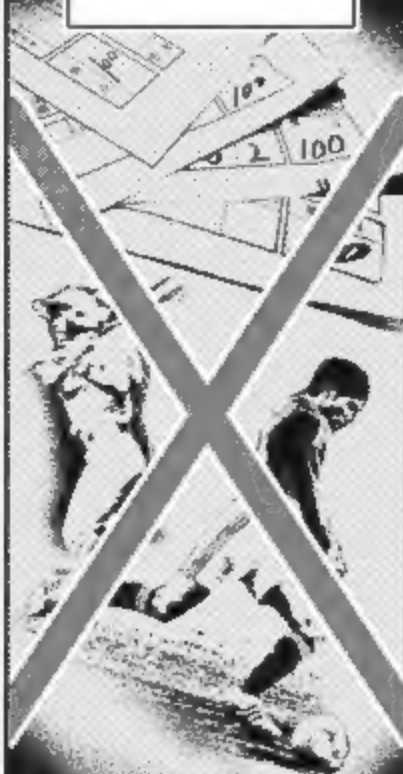
HYAK-KAOH PRIVATE ACADEMY



WHAT THEY DO BELIEVE YOU NEED IN SPADES ARE THINGS LIKE STRATEGY AND THE ABILITY TO READ PEOPLE.

OR THE ABILITY TO RECOGNIZE A CRITICAL MOMENT IN A GAME.

IN THIS ACADEMY, VERY FEW VALUE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT OR ATHLETIC PROWESS.



THOSE SORTS OF THINGS AREN'T IMPORTANT TO THESE STUDENTS, AS THEY'RE LIKELY TO BE IN A POSITION TO "USE PEOPLE" IN THE FUTURE ANYWAY.

IN OTHER WORDS ...

二年華組

HOW ABOUT WE PLAY HANA-FUDA?

ALL RIGHT, IT'S OVER!

WHAT DO YOU WANNA DO TO-DAY?

I'M IN!

OKAY, THAT'S IT FOR TODAY.

SIGN: SECOND YEAR-CHERRY BLOSSOM CLASS



...HOW
GOOD
THEY
ARE
AT
GAM-
BLING.



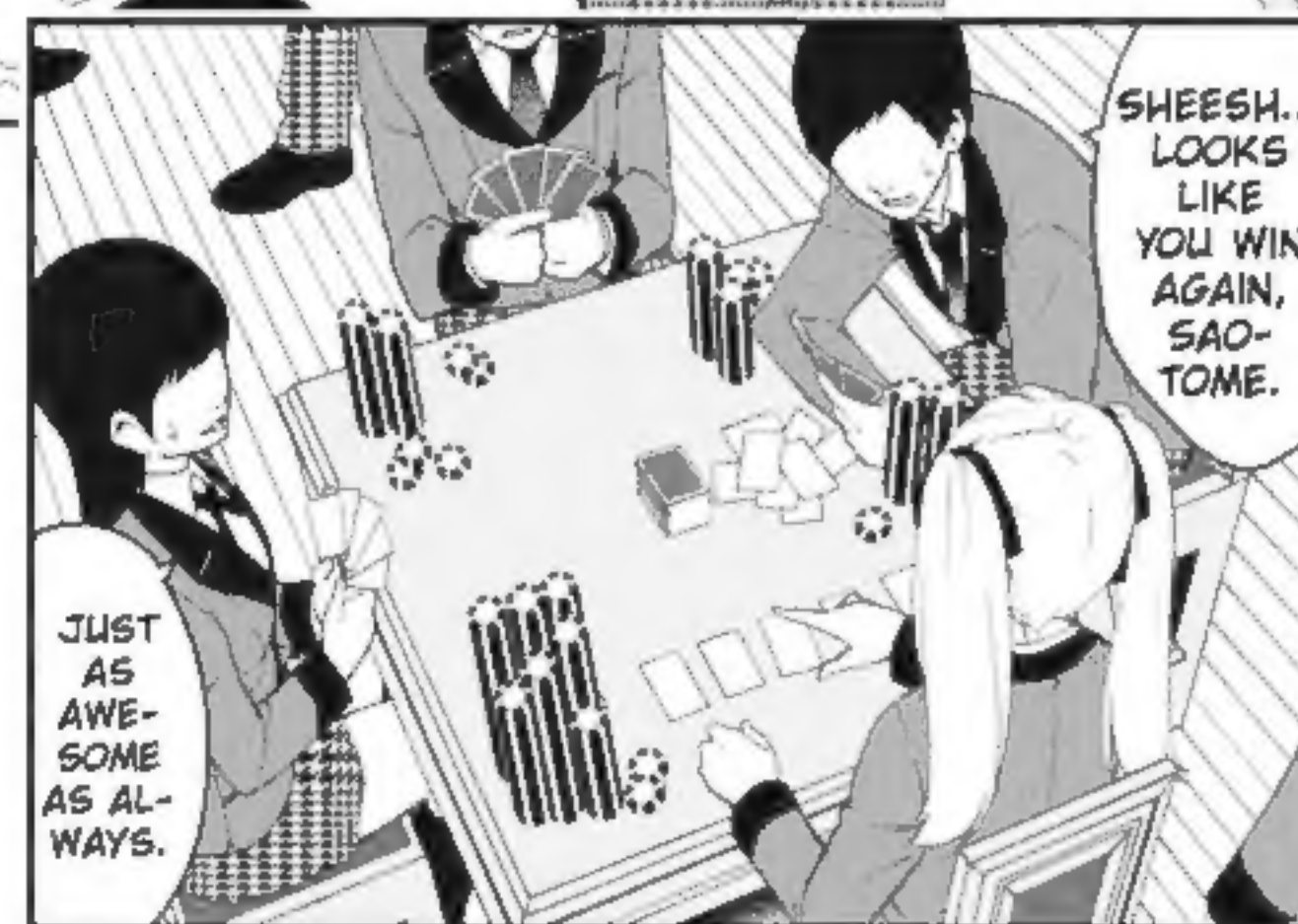
GO
BUY ME
SOME
MELON
BREAD
AND A
TEA!

HEY,
FIDO!



PHEW
...

I'M
HUN-
GRY.



JUST
AS
AWE-
SOME
AS AL-
WAYS.

SHEESH...
LOOKS
LIKE
YOU WIN
AGAIN,
SAO-
TOME.



I'VE
GOT A
STRAIGHT
!

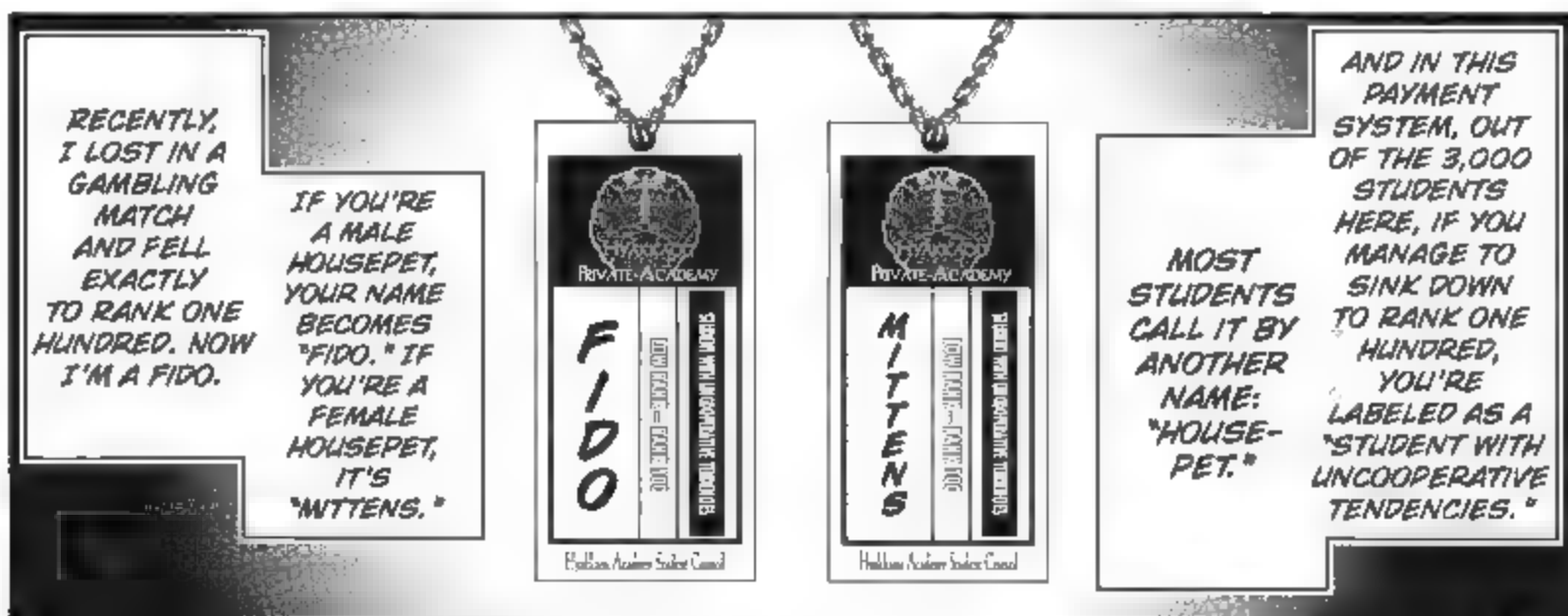
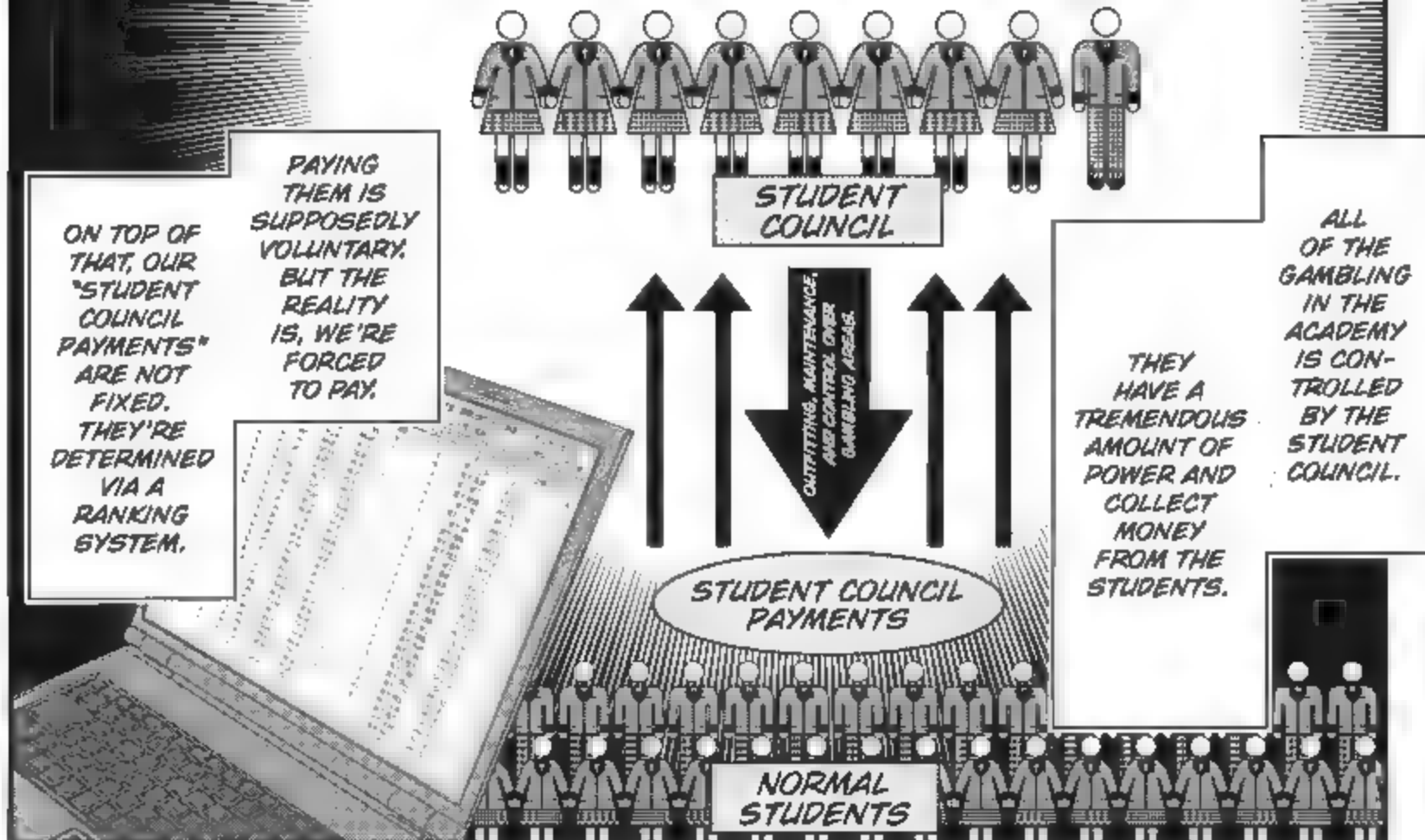


...A
HOUSE-
PET
NOW.

I'M...



THERE IS A CASTE SYSTEM IN THIS ACADEMY.





CRAWLING
BACK UP THE
LADDER IS
EXTREMELY
DIFFICULT...

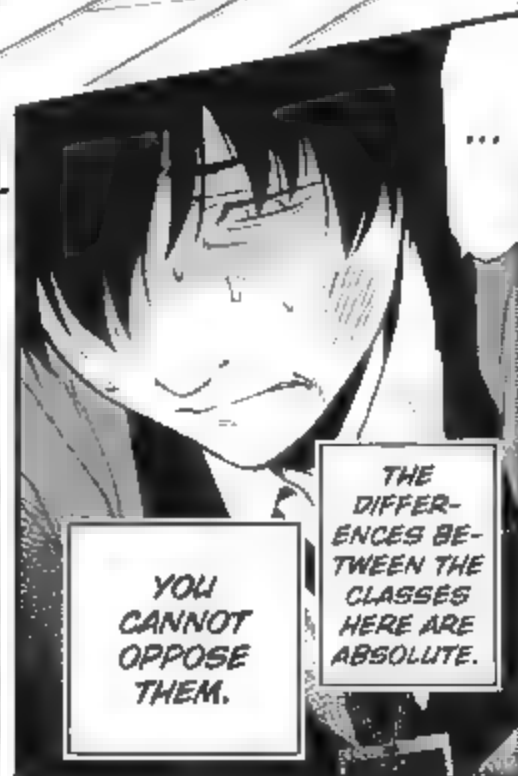
IN
SHORT,
IT'S
BASI-
CALLY
"CHECK-
MATE" IF YOU
GET
THIS
LOW
IN THE
RANKS.



IF YOU WANT
TO TURN THINGS
AROUND, YOU NEED
TO PAY THE STUDENT
COUNCIL. BUT AS YOU
HAVE NO MONEY, THAT'S
IMPOSSIBLE.

SHOULD
YOU DARE
OPPOSE
THEM, THE
STUDENT
COUNCIL
WILL GET
REVENGE.

NORMAL
STUDENTS



YOU
CANNOT
OPPOSE
THEM.

THE
DIFFER-
ENCES BE-
TWEEN THE
CLASSES
HERE ARE
ABSOLUTE.



HELLO,
EVERY-
ONE!

MY
NAME IS
YUMEKO
JABAMI.

TIME
TO IN-
TRODUCE
THE NEW
TRANS-
FER
STU-
DENT.



I MAY
BE NEW
HERE, BUT
I'D BE
VERY HAPPY
TO MAKE
FRIENDS
WITH ALL
OF YOU.



WHOA.
SHE'S
PRETTY
CUTE.

HMM...
I'D LIKE
FOR ONE OF
YOU TO SHOW
JABAMI-SAN
AROUND THE
ACADEMY.

THOUGH,
JABAMI IS
A PRETTY
WEIRD
LAST NAME.

RIGHT
?



YEAH.

Y...

YOU'RE THE
CLASS REP-
RESENTATIVE,
RIGHT? CAN
I COUNT ON
YOU?

SUZUI-
KUN!



YEAH.

BADUM

N...
NICE
TO
MEET-
CHA.



NICE
TO
MEET
YOU...

...SUZUI-
SAN.

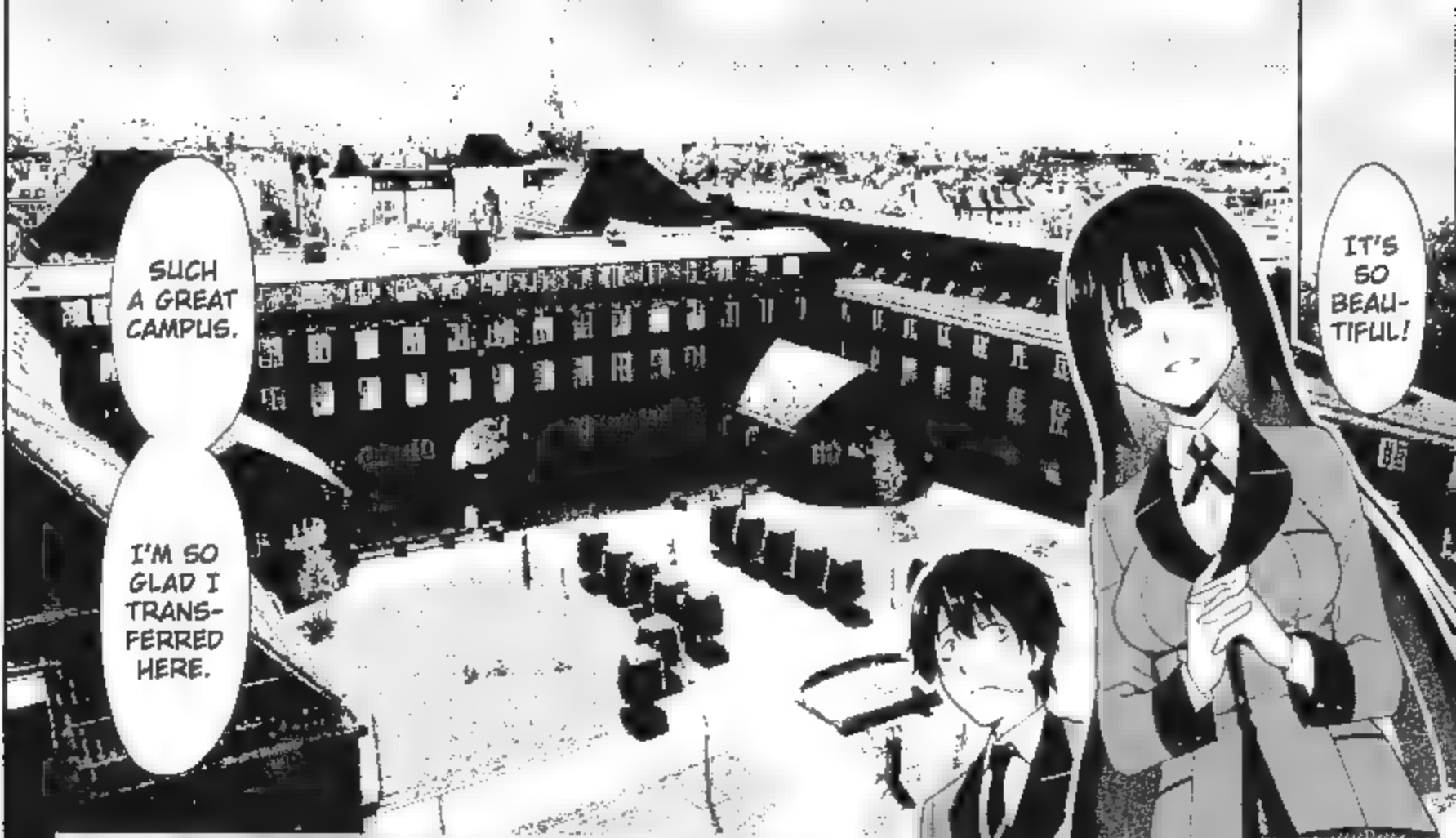
SMILE



I WAS
FORCED
TO BECOME
CLASS
REPRE-
SENTATIVE,
BUT MAN IF
THIS ISN'T
A GREAT
PERK.

...

WHOOOSH



SUCH
A GREAT
CAMPUS.

I'M SO
GLAD I
TRANS-
FERRED
HERE.

IT'S
SO
BEAU-
TIFUL!



BLUSH
!!



IS
THAT
SO?

OKAY
...



HAVE
YOU EVER
GAMBLLED
BEFORE?

YOU MEAN
STUFF LIKE
POKER AND
MAHJONG?
I HAVE A
GENERAL IDEA
OF WHAT THE
RULES ARE.

GAMBLLED
...?



YES?
WHAT
IS IT?

...JA-
BAMI-
SAN.

HEE
HEE
HEE
HEE.

AND
SINCE THIS
ACADEMY
IS SO
PRESTIGIOUS,
THERE'S
A LOT OF
RICH KIDS
HERE.

AND
THERE'S
NO END TO
THE MONEY
THEY
HAVE TO
GAMBLE
WITH.

EVEN
AFTER
SCHOOL
LET'S OUT,
LOTS OF
PLACES ON
CAMPUS
TURN INTO
GAMBLING
DENS.

HYAKKAOU
ACADEMY
HAS...

...HAD
A THING
FOR
GAMBLING
SINCE A
LONG TIME
AGO. IT'S
ALMOST
LIKE A
"TRADI-
TION."

THEY'LL
INVITE YOU
TO PLAY
SOON...

...SO BE
CAREFUL
...







IT'S
NICE TO
MEET
YOU AS
WELL,
SAO-
TOME-
SAN.



JABAMI-
SAN, ARE
YOU FREE
AFTER
SCHOOL?



I'M
DEFINITELY
UP FOR
A GOOD
RISK!
♡

AH,
GAM-
BLING!

WOULD
YOU
LIKE TO
GAMBLE
WITH ME,
THEN?



I'M
MARY
SAO-
TOME.

NICE
TO MEET
YOU.

NOW, THEN...
WHAT KIND OF
GAME SHALL
WE PLAY?

WHOA...
I WONDER
IF SHE'S
GOING TO
PLAY THAT
WITH HER?

I HEAR
MARY'S
GONNA
GAMBLE
WITH THE
TRANSFER
STUDENT.

WHAT'S
UP?

HOW
ABOUT
"VOTING
ROCK
PAPER
SCIS-
SORS"

AN
ORIGINAL
GAME? THAT
SOUNDS SO
COOL!

IT'S AN
ORIGINAL
GAME OF
CHANCE WE
OCCASION-
ALLY PLAY
HERE.

YOU
GOT
SOME-
THIN'
YOU
WANT
TO
COM-
PLAIN
ABOUT
?

HUH?

WHY PLAY
THAT ALL OF
A SUDDEN?
THE RULES
ARE PRETTY
HARD TO
UNDER-
STAND...

H...
HEY,
WAIT A
SEC.

NO...

UH...
...



ALL RIGHT.
I'LL EXPLAIN
THE RULES.

FIRST,
THIRTY
PEOPLE
IN THE
CLASSROOM
...

THIRTY CLASSMATES

...EACH
DRAW
EITHER
A ROCK,
PAPER, OR
SCISSORS
ON A CARD.

THIS
GAME
INVOLVES
EVERYONE
IN THE
CLASS-
ROOM.

THEY DRAW
ON CARDS

VOTING

WE
CALL
THIS
"VOTING."

THEN, THEY
STICK THE
CARDS IN A
BOX SO WE
CAN'T SEE
WHAT THEY
DREW.

VOTING BOX



THEN WE
PICK ONE
OF THOSE
CARDS
AND PLAY
ROCK
PAPER
SCISSORS.

PICK A CARD
AND PLAY RPS



DRAW
THREE CARDS

AFTER
THAT,
WE
DRAW
THREE
CARDS
FROM
THE
BOX...



IF ALL
THREE
GAMES
ARE A TIE,
THAT SET
IS A DRAW.
THAT'S HOW
YOU PLAY
A SET.



IF IT'S
A TIE, WE
PICK A CARD
FROM THE
REMAINING
TWO AND
PLAY ROCK
PAPER
SCISSORS
AGAIN.



TRYING
TO READ
THROUGH THE
UNEVENNESS
OF THE
GAME IS THE
INTERESTING
PART.

IT'S
NOT LIKE
NORMAL
ROCK PAPER
SCISSORS,
WHERE YOU
CAN CHOOSE
FREELY
BETWEEN
ALL THREE
MOVES.





BLUSH

I'VE
PREPARED
120 CHIPS
FOR YOU,
FOR
NOW.



THESE
ARE
CHIPS.

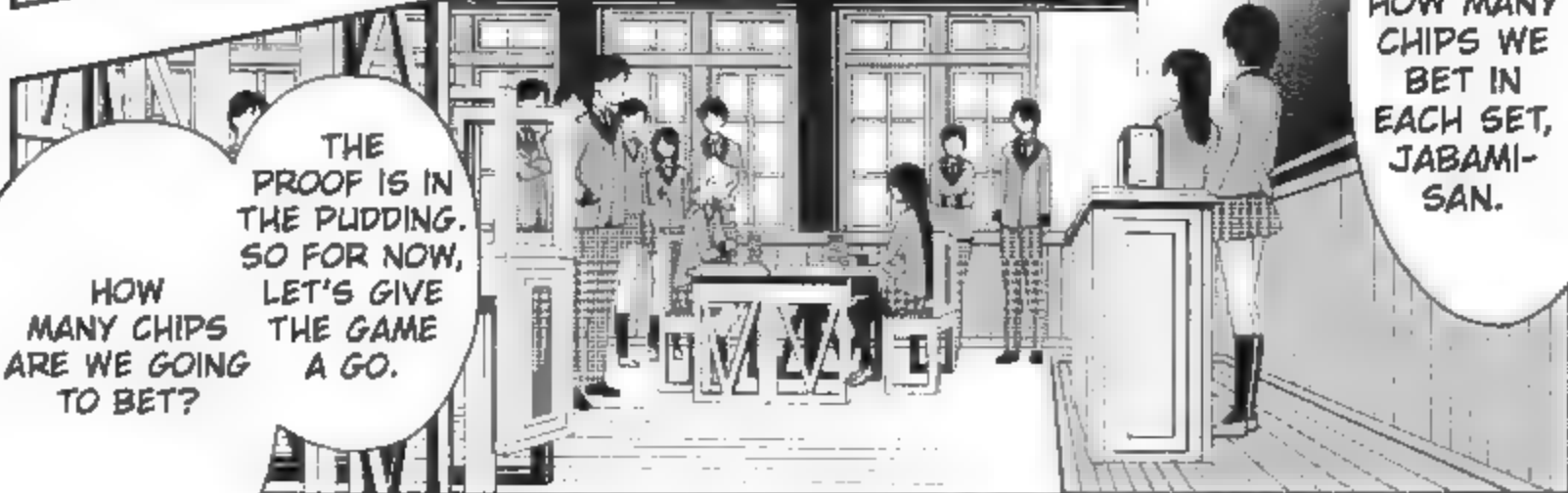


BETWEEN
THE TWO
OF THEM,
THAT'S
2,400,000
YEN...

TO
GAMBLE
THAT MUCH
AWAY ON A
GAME OF
ROCK PAPER
SCISSORS IS
INSANE...



EACH
ONE IS
WORTH
10,000
YEN.



YOU CAN
CHOOSE
HOW MANY
CHIPS WE
BET IN
EACH SET,
JABAMI-
SAN.

THE
PROOF IS IN
THE PUDDING.
SO FOR NOW,
LET'S GIVE
THE GAME
A GO.

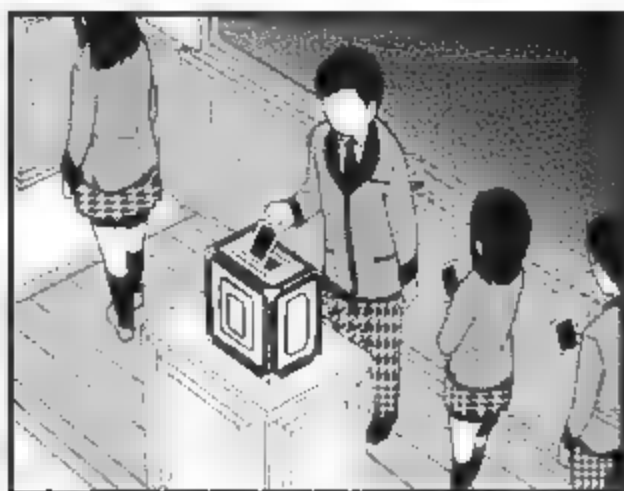
HOW
MANY CHIPS
ARE WE GOING
TO BET?



ALL RIGHT.
LET'S START
WITH TWO
CHIPS.



JABAMI-
SAN'S GOT
IT ROUGH
TOO, BEING
FORCED TO
DO THIS
RIGHT
AFTER SHE
TRANS-
FERRED
IN.



SINCE
YOU ONLY
DRAW THREE
CARDS, IT'S
FAR MORE
COMMON TO
GET A HAND
WITH DOUBLE
OF ONE CARD,
LIKE TWO
ROCKS AND
ONE PAPER.

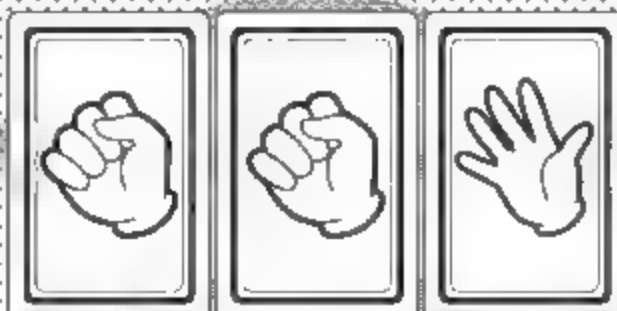
**LARGE
IM-
BAL-
ANCE**

IN
THIS GAME,
IT'S PRETTY
RARE FOR
YOU TO HAVE
ALL THREE
CHOICES IN
YOUR HAND.

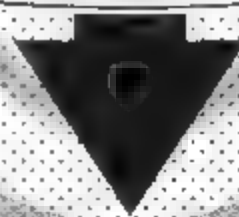




FOR
EXAMPLE, IF
YOU'VE GOT TWO
ROCKS IN YOUR
HAND, THERE'S A
POSSIBILITY THAT
ROCK IS THE
MOST COMMON
CARD IN THE
ENTIRE BOX.



READ THE BALANCE



ALL
RIGHT.
LET'S
DO
THIS.



HAVE
YOU
DECIDED?
LET'S
SHOW OUR
CARDS AT
THE SAME
TIME,
ON THE
SIGNAL.



ROCK,
PAPER
...

IN
THIS GAME,
THAT'S THE
SORT OF
UNCERTAIN
READING YOU
HAVE TO BASE
YOUR DECISION
ON.

...SO THAT
MEANS THAT
THE ODDS YOUR
OPPONENT WILL
PLAY ROCK IS
HIGH, SO YOU'D
WANT TO PLAY
PAPER...



...SCIS-
SORS!



I'LL
TAKE
TWO OF
YOUR
CHIPS,
THEN.

THANK
YOU SO
MUCH.



お
OH...!

AND
WE'VE
GOT YOUR
FIRST WIN,
JABAMI-
SAN. CON-
GRATS.



FOR
THE
NEXT
SET...

LET'S
KEEP
GOING.

SO
YOU'VE
GOT
THE
GIST
OF IT,
RIGHT?

SURE.



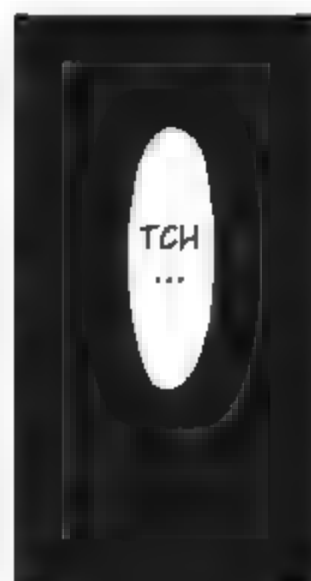
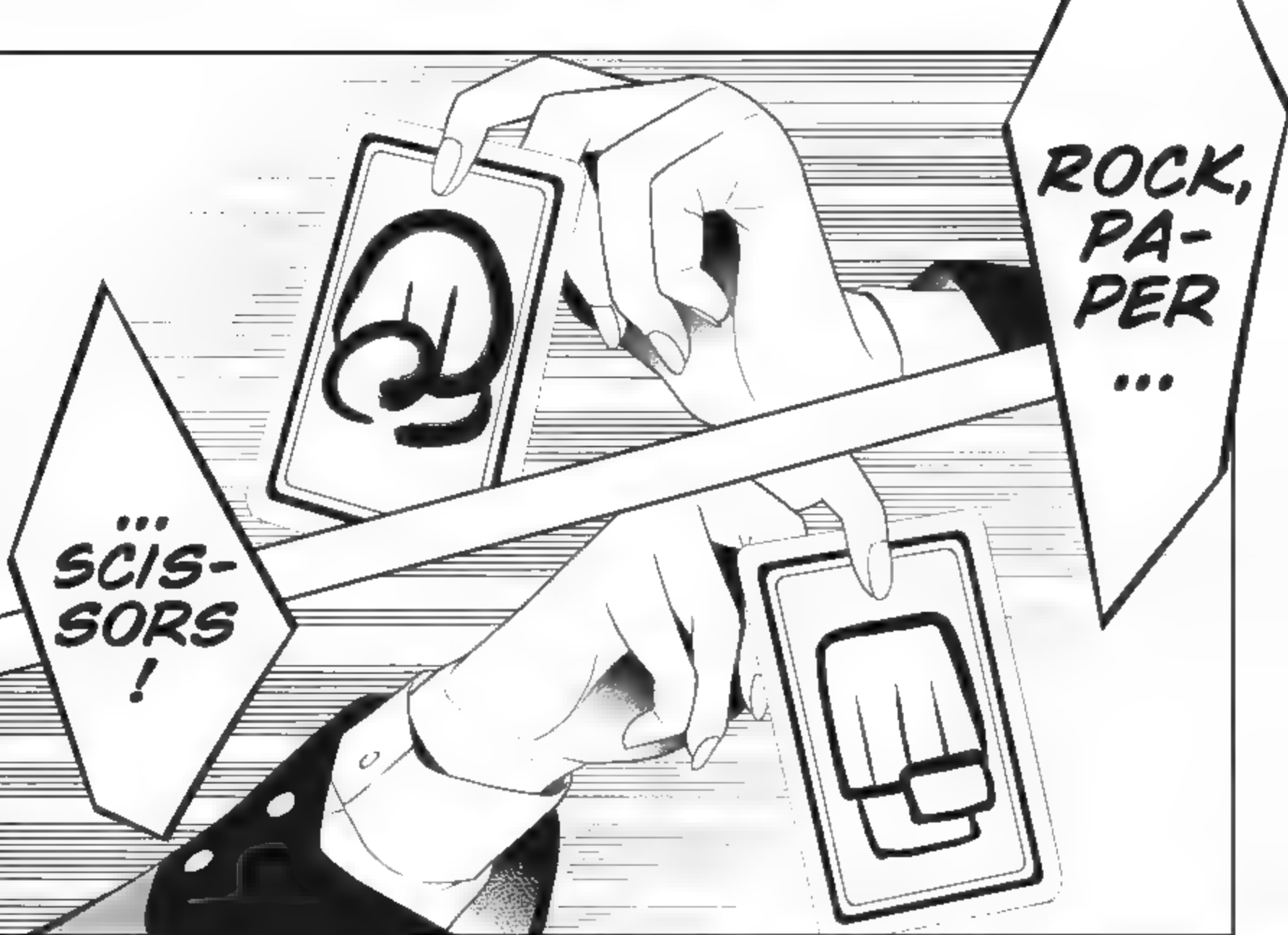


500,000
YEN IS
GOING TO
CHANGE
HANDS IN
ONE GAME
OF ROCK
PAPER
SCISSORS
...!

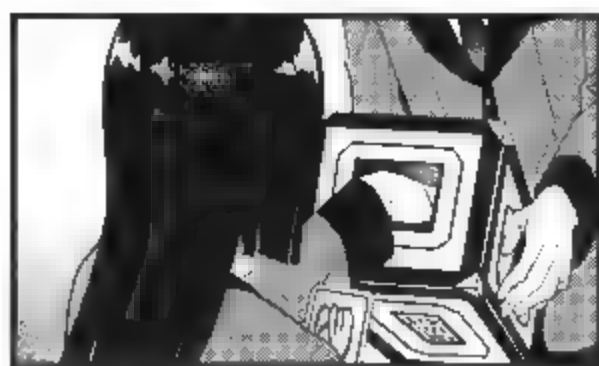
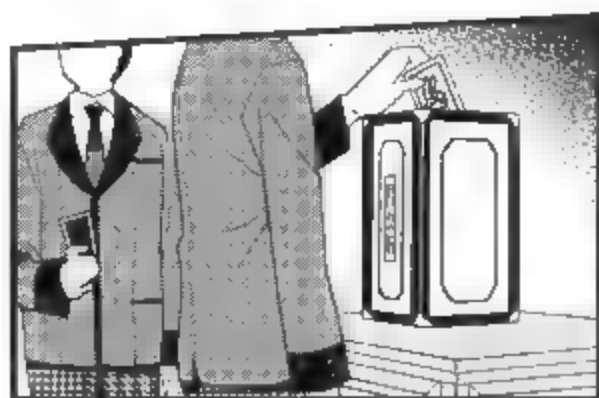


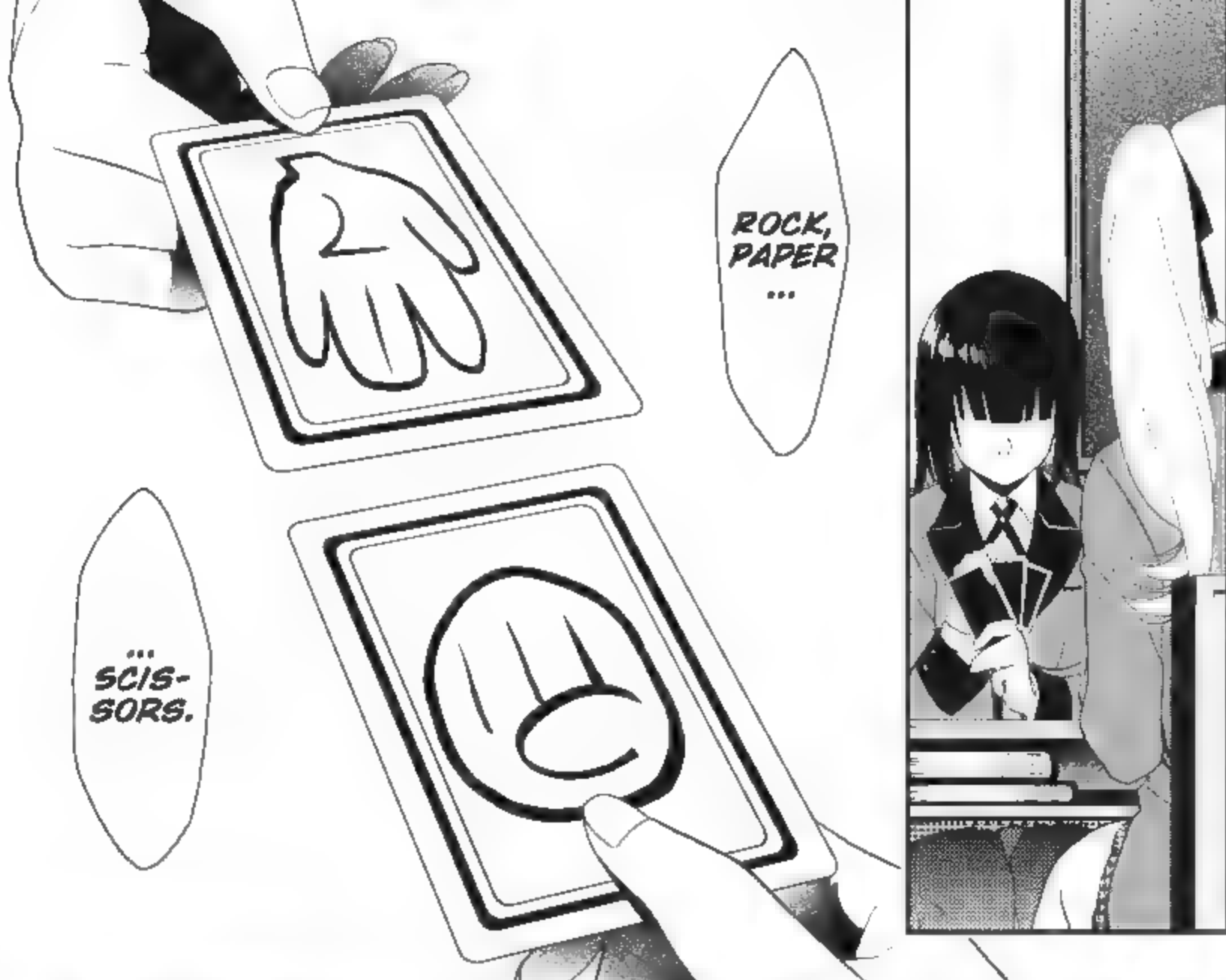
ARE YOU
READY?





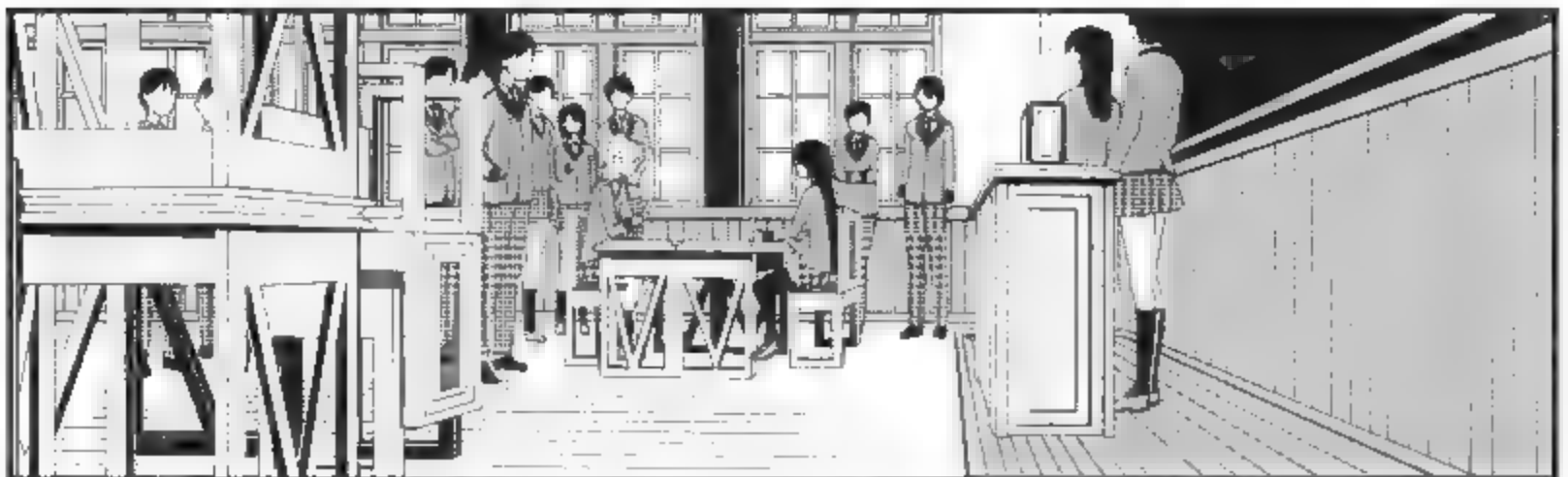








SMIRK







I WIN AGAIN!



I DID IT!





WELL,
I MEAN,
YOU DID
LOSE
1,000,000
YEN, SO
I GUESS
I CAN'T
BLAME
YOU.

DON'T
TELL
ME
YOU'VE
LOST
YOUR
NERVE!

SLIDE



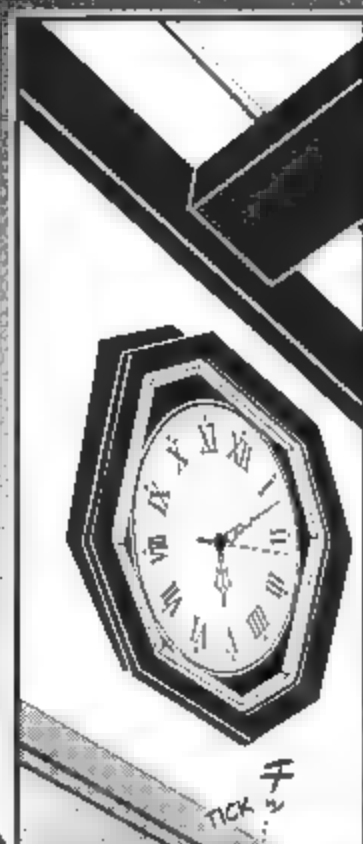
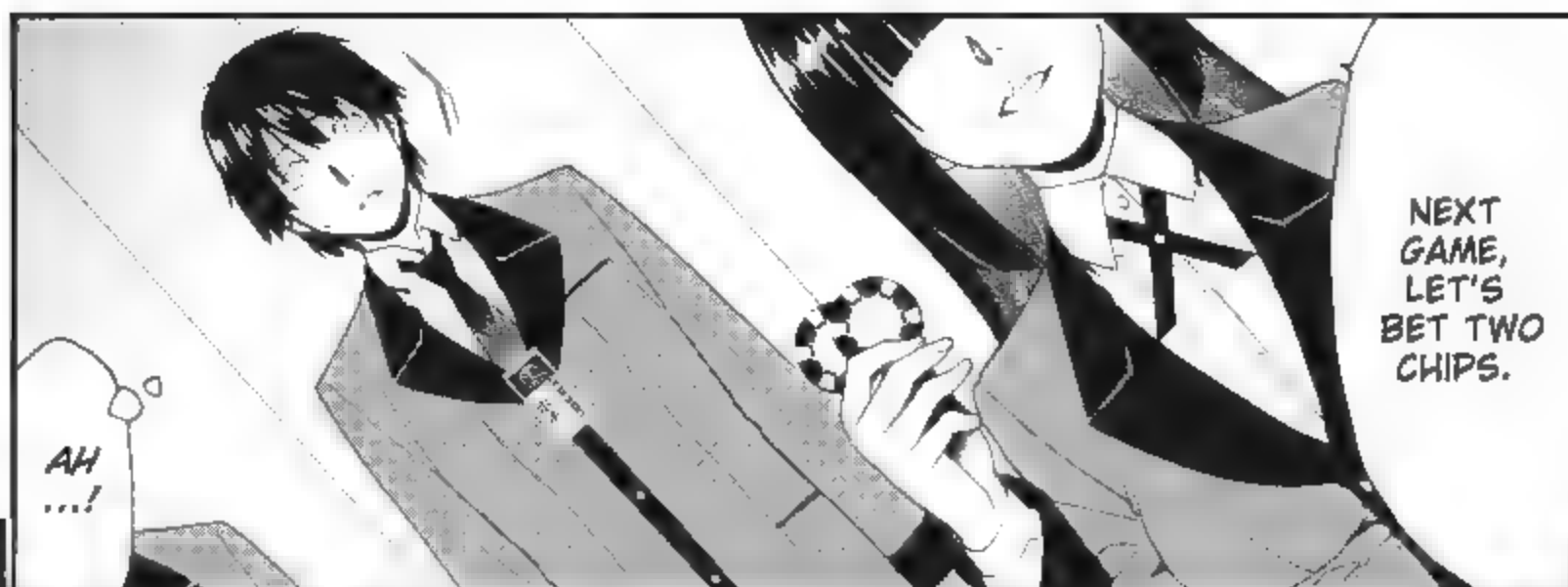
THE
GAME
IS
JUST
GET-
TING
START-
ED.

SMILE

...
NOT
AT
ALL.

HA
HA
HA
HA.





WELL,
NOW.

JA-
BAMI-
SAN...

IF
SHE GETS
SCARED
WHEN SHE'S
BEATEN AND
STARTS MAKING
SMALL BETS,
THERE'S NO
WAY SHE CAN
TURN THINGS
AROUND.

...
**SEEMS
LIKE
YOU'VE
LOST
ALL OF
YOUR
CHIPS.**

I
WONDER
IF SHE'LL
BE ABLE TO
MAKE HER
"STUDENT
COUNCIL
PAYMENT"
...

THAT
WAS
A
PRETTY
BIG
GAME...

120
CHIPS...
SHE LOST
1,200,000
YEN...?

WHOA.

...
**SAO-
TOME-
SAN.**



WOULD IT
BE OKAY IF
I BORROWED
SOME
ADDITIONAL
CHIPS?



SO
HOW
MANY
CHIPS
DO YOU
WANT?

WHAT
AN
IDIOT.

SHE'S
JUST DIGGING
HER OWN
GRAVE...
♡

HMM...
LET'S
SEE...

YOU'RE
MORE
THAN
WELCOME
TO.
♪

HUH
...!

SHE JUST
DOESN'T
KNOW
WHEN TO
QUIT, DOES
SHE...?

SHE'S
GONNA
PLAY
AGAIN
!? ...



HUH
...?



O...ONE
THOUSAND
CHIPS...
10,000,000
YEN...?

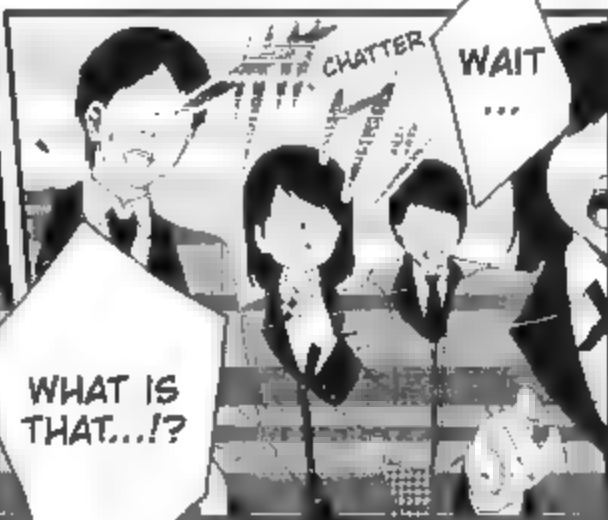


YES.

AND I'D LIKE
TO PUT THEM
ALL ON THE
NEXT SET.

HUH
...!?

I'D
LIKE
ONE
THOU-
SAND
CHIPS.





NOW
THERE
SHOULD
BE NO
ISSUES.

HERE'S
10,000,000
YEN IN
CASH.



WHY
IS SHE
WALKING
AROUND
WITH THAT
KINDA
CASH...!?

SHE
SERIOUSLY
HAS
10,000,000
YEN!?

FOR
REAL
...?

HUH
...?



YOU'RE
CRAZY!

THERE'S
NO WAY
YOU CAN
AFFORD
TO BET
10,000,000
ON A SINGLE
GAME OF
ROCK PAPER
SCISSORS

DON'T
BE
STUPID!

...
**GAM-
BLING**
...

...IS
**MORE
FUN
THE
CRA-
ZIER
IT
IS.**



THE
ESSENCE
OF
GAMBLING
IS
MADNESS,
IS IT
NOT?

HUH
...?

IN A
CAPITALIST
SOCIETY,
IT'S NATURAL
THAT MONEY
IS LIFE. SO
ENTRUSTING
YOUR LIFE TO
CHANCE...

...ISN'T
SOMETHING
THAT A SANE
PERSON
WOULD
DO.

AND
YET
REGARD-
LESS,
PEOPLE
GO TO
CASINOS
IN LARGE
NUM-
BERS.

BECAUSE
PEOPLE
DERIVE
PLEASURE
FROM THE
INSANITY
OF PUTTING
THEIR LIVES
ON THE
LINE.

AND IF
THAT'S
THE
CASE...

**BUT
ISN'T
THAT
WHAT
MAKES
IT
FUN?**





NOW,
THEN

...

...
SHALL
WE
GO
GAM-
BLING
MAD?

SHUPPER





VERY
WELL
...

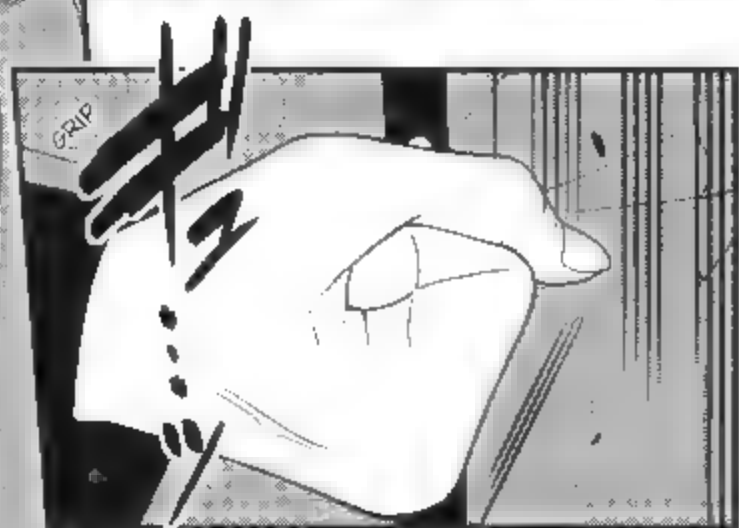
IF YOU
PUT IT
LIKE
THAT...

...I'LL
PLAY
WITH
YOU!

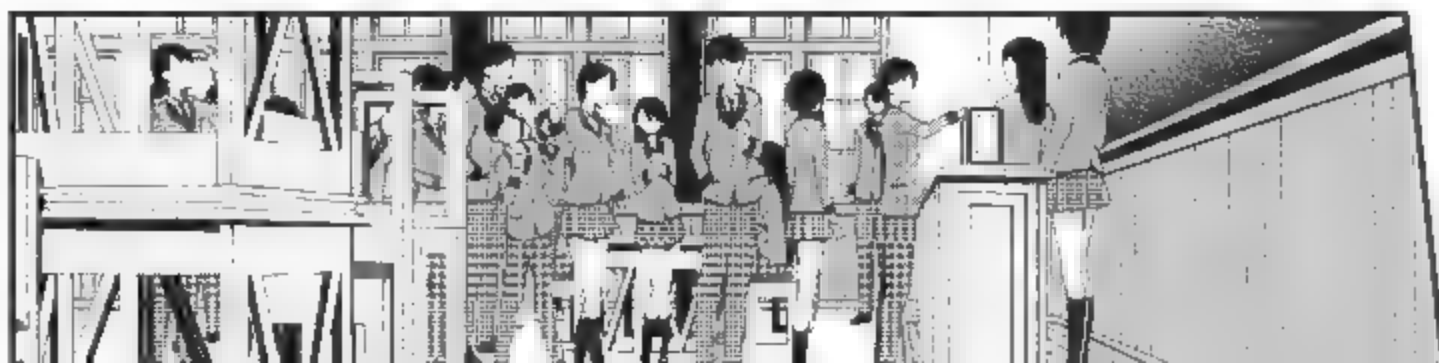


THIS
STUPID,
COM-
MON
GIRL...

...IS
MAKING
A
DAMNED
FOOL
OUT OF
ME...!



GRIP







...ARE
VOTING
TO GIVE
ME AN
ADVAN-
TAGE.

OF THE
THIRTY
VOTERS,
TWENTY-
ONE OF
THEM

FACES: SLAVE

REGARDLESS,
THOSE
TWENTY-ONE
"SLAVES"
WILL VOTE
HOWEVER I
TELL THEM.



THEY ALL
HAVE THEIR
MOTIVA-
TIONS—
LIKE PAYING
BACK A
DEBT OR
INCREASING
THEIR SOCIAL
STATUS...

...THIS
MANY
ROCKS
AND
PAPERS.



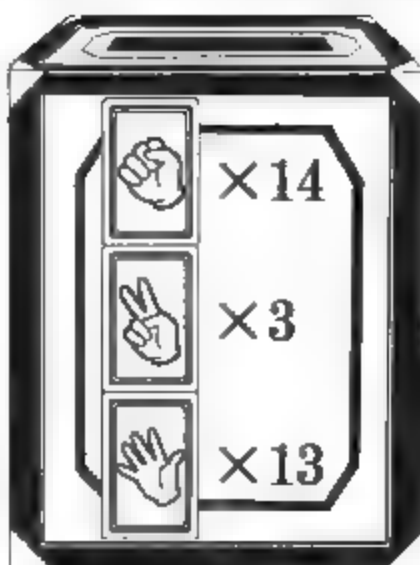
×10



×11

THIS TIME,
I'M MAKING
THEM VOTE
SO THAT I
HAVE...

...WILL
TURN OUT
SOMETHING
LIKE THIS.



THAT
WAY, IT'S
LIKELY
THAT THE
CARDS
IN THE
BOX...

THE ONLY
PROBLEM
WILL BE IF
I DON'T
GET ANY
PAPER...

THERE WILL
BE FEW, IF ANY,
SCISSORS IN
THE VOTING BOX,
MAKING THE
CHANCES OF
JABAMI DRAWING
ONE AND USING
IT SLIM, SO...

...IF
I PLAY
PAPER,
AT THE
VERY
LEAST,
I WON'T
LOSE.





**I'VE
WON.**

**THIS
IS
THE
END
FOR
HER!**



**TWO
PAPERS.**

**PRETTY
MUCH
MY
IDEAL
HAND.**



ORIN



YOU'VE ONLY GOT THREE CARDS, SO THERE'S NOT MUCH YOU CAN DO EVEN IF YOU TAKE YOUR TIME.

WHAT'S THE MATTER?

...



HAVE YOU DECIDED THE CARD YOU'LL PLAY?

SHALL WE BEGIN?



DID YOU THINK I WOULDN'T NOTICE?



HUH...?

THOUGH, BASED
ON THE VOTING
UP UNTIL NOW,
IT'S CLEAR NOT
ALL OF THEM
ARE VOTING
YOUR WAY.

MURMUR

EVERY-
ONE...

...IS
WORKING
FOR YOU,
AREN'T
THEY,
SAOTOME-
SAN?

TEN
PEOPLE OR
SO? MAYBE
TWENTY, TO
MAKE DOUBLY
SURE YOU'D
WIN?

YOU
DIDN'T
EXACTLY
DO A GOOD
JOB OF
HIDING IT.

H—

HOW
DARE YOU
ACCUSE...

SO IT'S ONLY
NATURAL FOR ME
TO THINK YOU
WERE UP TO
SOMETHING.

IN THE
TWO GAMES
WHERE YOU PUT
500,000 YEN
ON THE LINE,
YOU PLAYED
THE SAME
CARD BOTH
TIMES.



WHEN WE
WEREN'T
WAGERING
MUCH,
YOU
MIXED
YOUR
CHOICES
UP
PROPERLY.

IF
YOU'RE
NOT
PREPARED
TO LOSE
MONEY,
YOU WON'T
FOOL
ANYONE
WITH
TACTICS
LIKE
THOSE!



WHA
...?

THAT
WAS A
PRETTY
POOR
WAY OF
TRYING
TO
DISGUISE
IT.

OH, I
WOULDN'T
DREAM
OF IT!

IF
YOU'RE
TRYING
TO GET
ME TO
END THE
GAME IN
A STALE-
MATE...

YOU
WANT
TO END
THE
SMACK
TALK?



I WOULDN'T DO
ANYTHING SO
WASTEFUL.

ESPE-
CIALLY
SINCE
...

...THE
GAME
IS ONLY
GOING
TO GET
MORE
INTER-
ESTING
FROM
HERE...





WITHOUT
KNOWING
WHAT I'LL
PLAY, SHE
CAN'T BE
SURE OF
VICTORY!

THIS
IS JUST
SOME
MEAN-
INGLESS
BLUFF!



NO.

THERE'S
NO WAY.

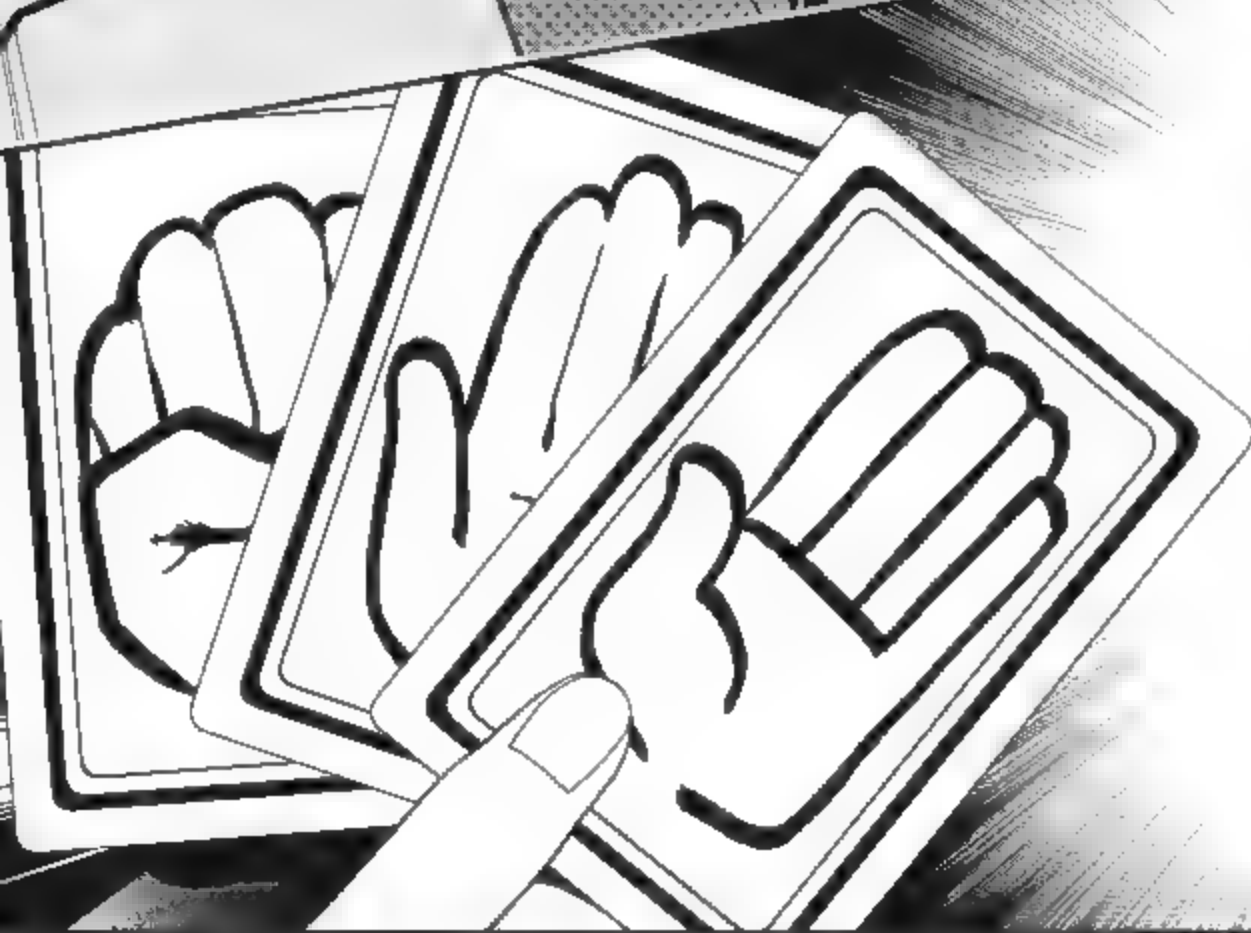


HOW
CAN
SHE
BE SO
CALM?

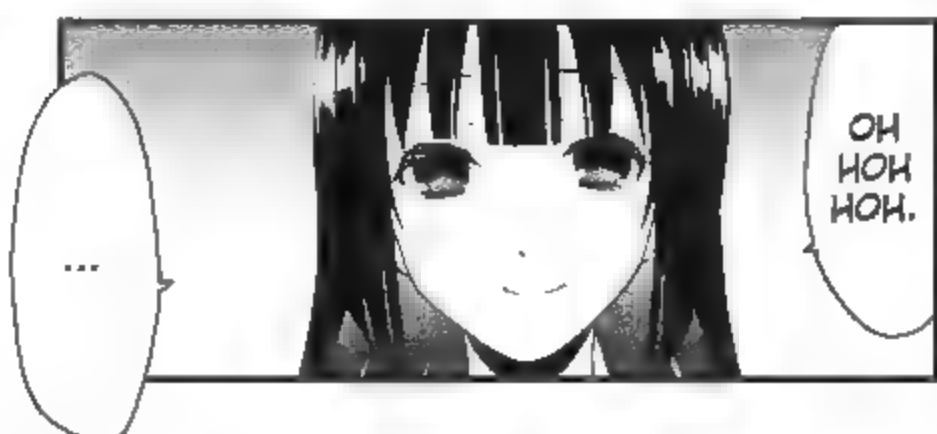
HUH
...?



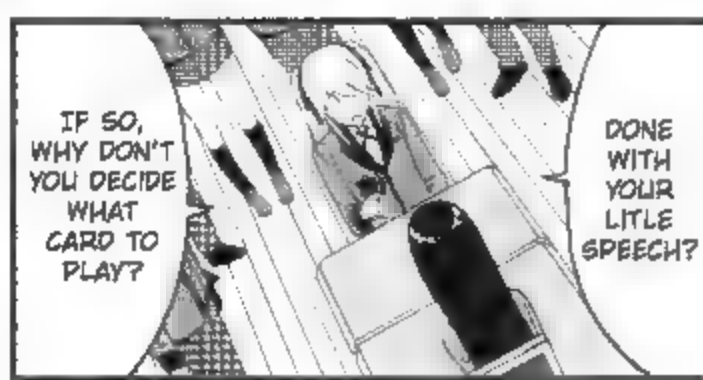
IS SHE
THAT CON-
FIDENT?



IF
I PLAY
PAPER,
I'LL
WIN...!



OH
HOH
HOH.



IF SO,
WHY DON'T
YOU DECIDE
WHAT
CARD TO
PLAY?

DONE
WITH
YOUR
LITTLE
SPEECH?





**TIME
FOR
OUR
SHOW-
DOWN
...!**



ROCK!

PAPER!

...SCIS-
SORS!
♡





MARY-
CHAN
LOST
...

AHH
....!

OH, BUT
IT CAN.

GIGGLE
GIGGLE
クス
クス

IT
CAN'T
BE.


TH...
...
THERE'S
NO
WAY.



YOU
CAN SEE
IT PLAIN AS
DAY WITH
YOUR OWN
EYES.

TAKING OUT
THE MONEY
I LOST...

NOW, THEN.
LET'S WASH
OUT THE
WINNINGS.



**THAT
WILL BE
8,800,000
YEN.**

**DO
BE SO
KIND AS
TO PAY
UP.**



**EEK
...!**

WHY DID THIS
HAPPEN...?

WHY
DID I WIND
UP LOSING
3,800,000 YEN
INSTEAD?

I JUST
WANTED HER
TO BE IN DEBT
TO ME...

JUST
WHO
THE
HELL
IS
THIS
GIRL
...!?

WHAT
IN THE
WORLD
IS
THIS
...?





COME
AGAIN?

YOU CAN
PAY IT,
RIGHT?

SO
I THINK
I'D LIKE
THAT AS
WELL.

OH.
AND IT
WAS YOU
WHO SAID
THAT IF
I DIDN'T
PUT FORTH
CASH, YOU
WOULDN'T
TRUST I'D
BE ABLE
TO PAY.



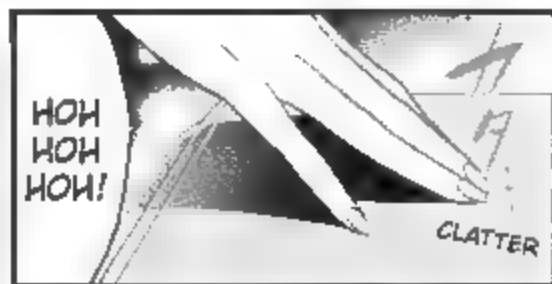
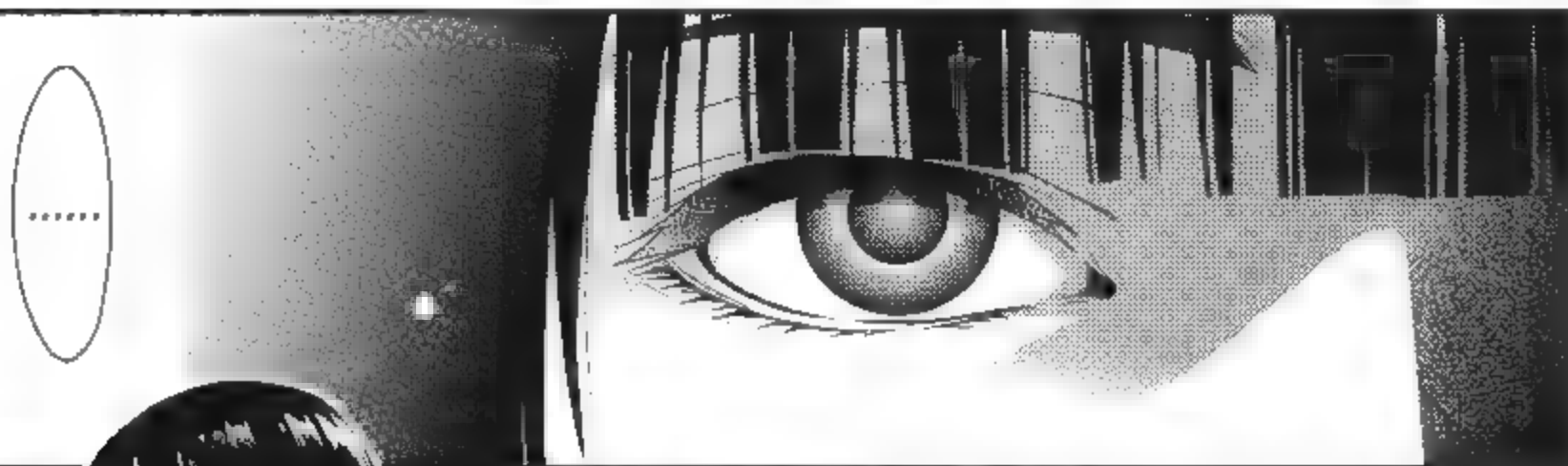
N...

...NO,
I
CAN'T.



COULD
I POS-
SIBLY
ASK
THAT
YOU
WAIT
A FEW
DAYS
...?

I
DON'T
HAVE
IT
RIGHT
NOW...





GIGGLE
~
~
~



I...
I SEE.

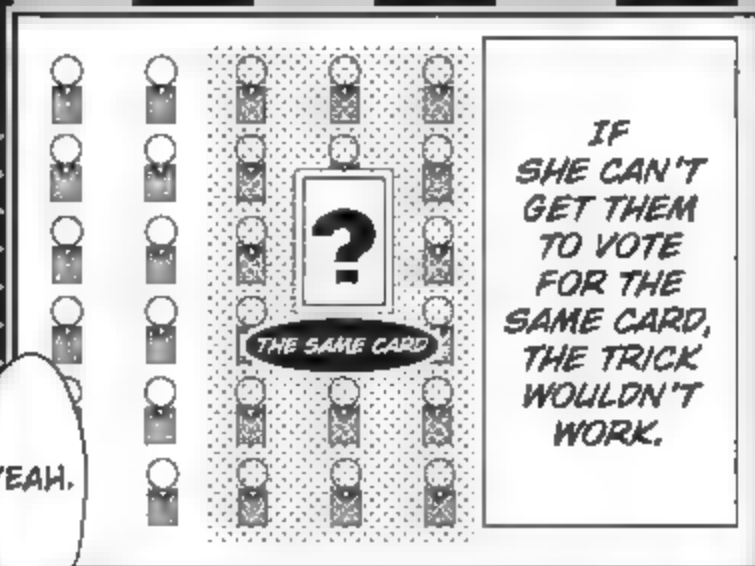
BUT
HOW DID
YOU KNOW
THAT?

SO
ALL I
HAD TO
KNOW
WAS
WHAT
CARD
WAS
BEING
INCLUDED
THE
MOST.



THE
ANSWER
IS
SIMPLE.

I KNEW
RIGHT
AWAY THAT
SAOTOME-
SAN WAS
CONTROLLING
THE VOTES.



YEAH.

IF
SHE CAN'T
GET THEM
TO VOTE
FOR THE
SAME CARD,
THE TRICK
WOULDN'T
WORK.



BUT ON
THE OTHER
HAND,
HAVING TO
REMEMBER
A PARTI-
CULAR
ORDER OF
CARDS THAT
WOULD BE
VOTED FOR
WOULD BE
DIFFICULT.

NO
REGULAR
PATTERN

HOWEVER,
AS FAR AS
I COULD
TELL FROM
OBSERVING
SAOTOME-
SAN, THERE
WAS NO
REGULAR
PATTERN TO
WHAT CARDS
WERE VOTED
FOR.



FOR THIS
EXAMPLE,
LET'S
ASSUME
SAOTOME-
SAN HAD
TWENTY
PEOPLE
VOTING
FOR HER.

HEE
HEE.
THAT'S
SOME-
THING I
WORKED
HARD
TO
FIGURE
OUT...

THEN
ALL I HAD
TO DO WAS
FIGURE OUT
HOW THEY
DECIDED
WHAT TO
VOTE ON.

DECIDE
ON THE
SPOT

SO I FIGURED
THAT THEY MUST
BE DECIDING
WHAT TO VOTE
FOR ON THE
SPOT.

HOW WILL WE VOTE?

PEOPLE'S FACES: FOLLOWERS

NO.
THERE
WAS
NOTHING
OF
THE
SORT.

SO
WAS
IT A
SOUND
?

SHE DIDN'T
USE ANY
SORT OF
SIGNAL
OR SIGN
FOR HER
FOLLOWERS.

I CLOSELY
OBSERVED
SAOTOME-
SAN AS
I USED
UP MY
ORIGINAL
120 CHIPS.

SIGNAL

SOMEONE
IN THE
CLASSROOM
WAS GIVING
A SIGN TO
THEM IN
SAOTOME-
SAN'S
PLACE.

SO
THAT
MEANT
THERE
COULD
ONLY
BE ONE
WAY
SHE
WAS
DOING
IT.

FIGURE'S FACE, FRONT: REPRESENTATIVE
BACK: FOLLOWERS

I HAD
OBSERVED
THE CROWD
WITH THAT
IN MIND, BUT
COULDN'T FIND
ANYONE WHO
WOULD BE
GIVING OUT
THE SIGN.



IF THAT'S
THE CASE,
THERE HAD
TO BE A
PARTICULAR
PERSON THAT
ALL OF HER
FOLLOWERS
WOULD LOOK
AT.

THEY
WEREN'T
STARING
AT ME.



...BUT
THEN, I
FINALLY
REALIZED
SOME-
THING.

I
THOUGHT
IT WAS
ONLY
NATURAL
THAT THE
PEOPLE
IN THE
ROOM
WERE
STARING
AT ME,
SINCE
I WAS
GAM-
BLING.

BUT
THAT
WAS
WHERE
I WAS
MAKING
MY
MISTAKE.





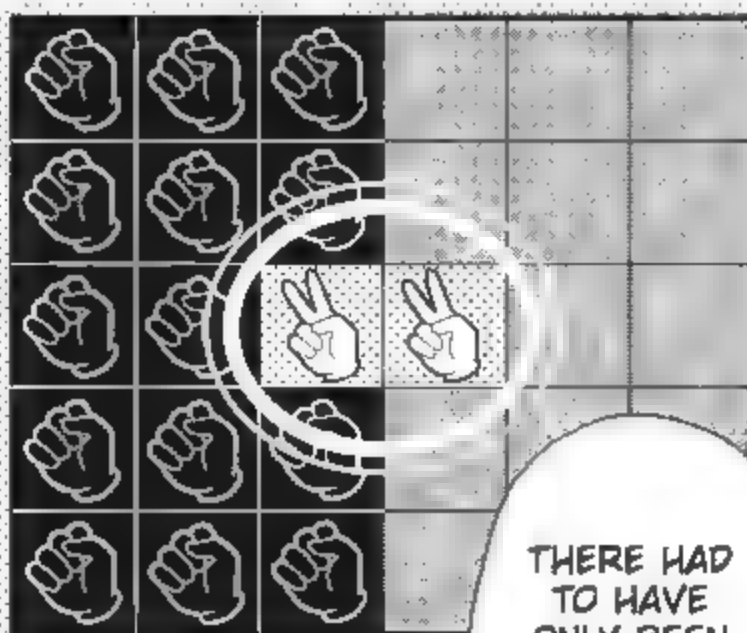


ALL I HAD TO DO WAS GUESS THE SIGN BASED ON YOUR ACTIONS. THE REST WAS EASY.

MY ACTIONS ...? BUT HOW? I WAS BEHIND YOU.



I WANT TO ASK YOU... SOMETHING ELSE.



HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO PULL SCISSORS IN YOUR LAST HAND?

THERE HAD TO HAVE ONLY BEEN ABOUT TWO OR THREE OF THOSE IN THE VOTING BOX. SO HOW DID YOU GET ONE...?



N...

...NO
WAY.

YOU USED
1,200,000
YEN TO SEE
THROUGH
SAOTOME'S
TRICK...

HOW
ABOUT
WE BET
FIFTY
CHIPS
AGAIN?

AND DE-
SPITE THAT
...

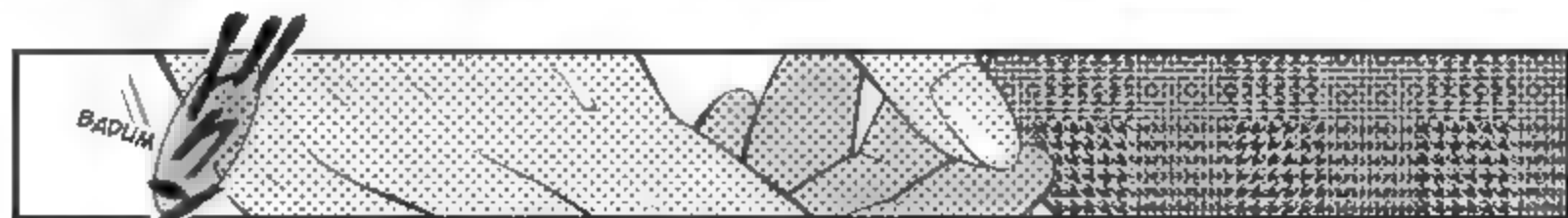
WELL,
THAT WAS
A COMPLETE
COINCIDENCE.

...YOU
MEAN TO
SAY THAT
YOU BET
10,000,000
AND HOPED
YOU'D WIN
BASED ON
CHANCE?

I JUST
GOT
REALLY
LUCKY!



**YES.
BASI-
CALLY.**



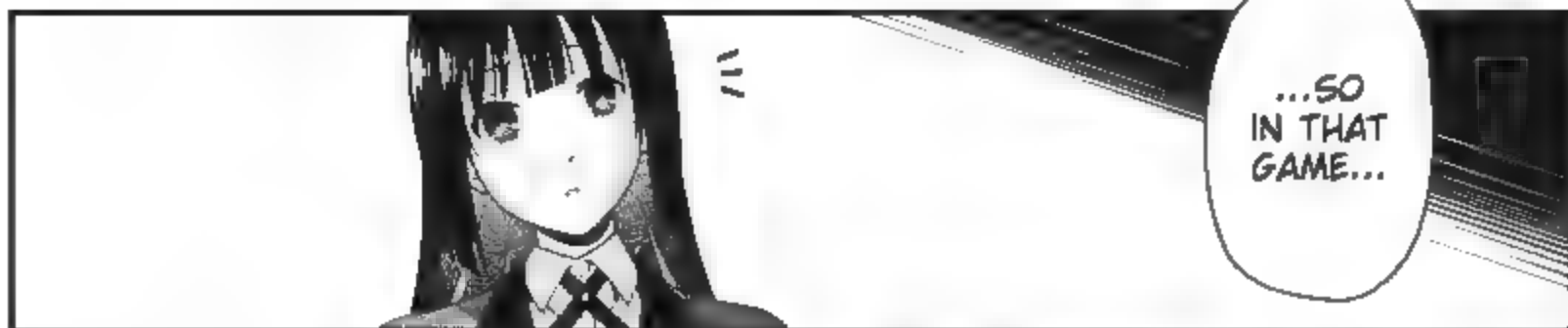
BADUM



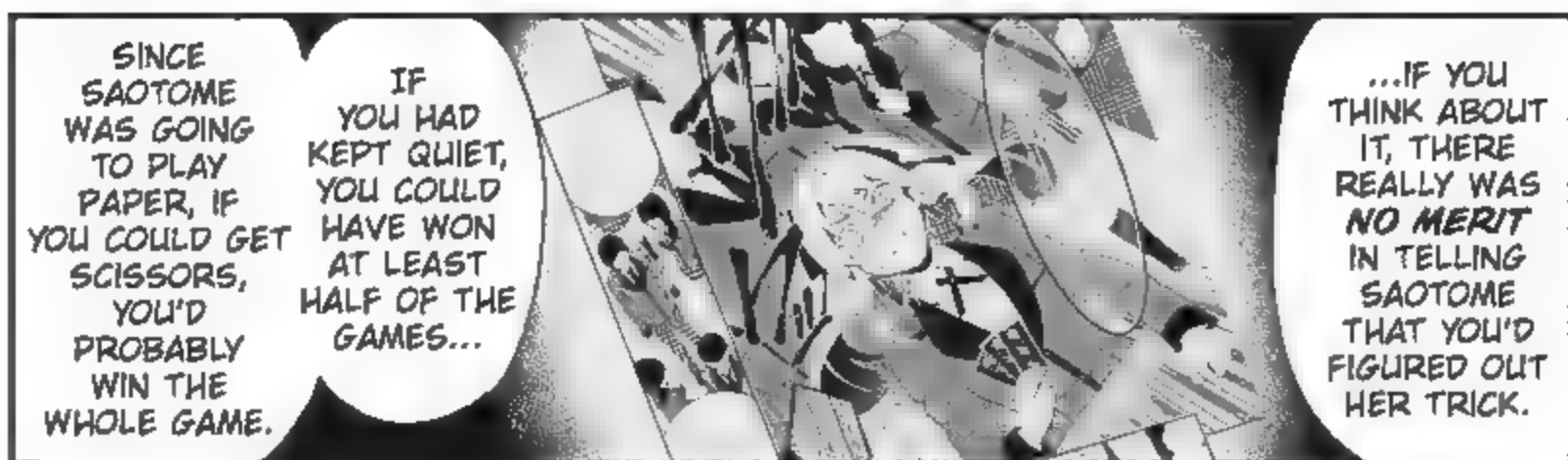
**THIS
GIRL...**

?

**YU-
MEKO
JA-
BAMI.**



...SO
IN THAT
GAME...



SINCE
SAOTOME
WAS GOING
TO PLAY
PAPER, IF
YOU COULD GET
SCISSORS,
YOU'D
PROBABLY
WIN THE
WHOLE GAME.

IF
YOU HAD
KEPT QUIET,
YOU COULD
HAVE WON
AT LEAST
HALF OF THE
GAMES...

...IF YOU
THINK ABOUT
IT, THERE
REALLY WAS
NO MERIT
IN TELLING
SAOTOME
THAT YOU'D
FIGURED OUT
HER TRICK.



BUT
EVEN SO,
YOU TOOK
THE RISK
OF TELLING
HER...





**...BECAUSE
YOU ENJOY
TAKING
RISKS.**

**YOU
CERTAINLY
ARE
SPECIAL.**

...
**SIMPLY
TAKING
A RISK
ON ITS
OWN IS
ACTUALLY
PRETTY
BORING
TO ME.**

**WELL
...**

BUT...

**I
HAVE
NEVER
...**

**...FELT
THE WAY
YOU
DESCRIBED.
NOT ONCE
IN MY
LIFE.**


**...HAVING
TOO MUCH
OF AN
ADVANTAGE
IS BORING
TOO,
Y'KNOW?**



I HAD
A BIG
DEBT.

I OWED
5,000,000
YEN TO
MARY
SAOTOME.

I TRIED TO
MAKE THE MONEY
BY GAMBLING, BUT
MY DEBT JUST
GOT BIGGER
AND BIGGER...
IT WAS LIKE I
WAS SWIMMING
THROUGH A
SWAMP.



...

I'M
GOING TO
DROP OUT
OF THIS
ACADEMY.



I'M
GIVING
UP.

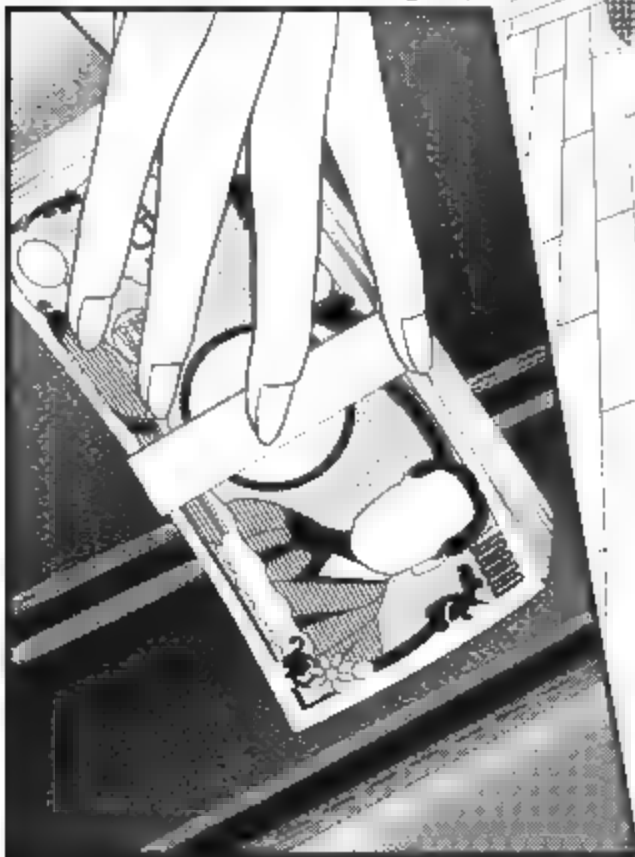


...I'M SURE
THINGS
WOULD'VE
TURNED OUT
DIFFER-
ENTLY...

IF
I WERE
STRONG
I LIKE
YOU...



JABAMI-
SAN.





HERE
YOU
GO.
♡

HUH?

UH...



I
MEAN,
I CAN'T
TAKE THIS!
ALL I DID
WAS TAKE
PART IN
SAOTOME'S
SCHEME...

HUH
...?

I KNOW
IT ISN'T
MUCH TO
EXPRESS
HOW I
FEEL, BUT
PLEASE
TAKE IT.

I HAD A
FUN TIME
GAMBLING
TODAY
BECAUSE
OF YOU.



BECAUSE
THAT'S
NOT
REALLY
GAM-
BLING.

...
DISLIKE
SITUATIONS
WHERE
I KNOW
FOR SURE
I WILL
WIN...

AND THANKS
TO YOU, I WAS
ABLE TO PLAY A
VERY FUN AND
STIMULATING
GAME TODAY.

...AS
WELL AS
THOSE THAT
I KNOW FOR
SURE I WILL
LOSE.





THANK
YOU
VERY
MUCH.



SHE'S
A GAM-
BLING
ENTHU-
SIAST.

SHE
ISN'T
NORMAL
...

SHE JUST
WANTED TO
THANK ME,
FROM THE
BOTTOM OF
HER HEART,
BECAUSE
SHE WAS
ABLE TO
ENJOY
THE GAME
TODAY.
THAT WAS
ALL.

THERE
WAS NO
RESENT-
MENT
OR PITY
TOWARD
ME IN
IT.

I
WAS
ABLE
TO SEE
HER
SMILE
VERY
CLEAR-
LY.





A "COM-
PULSIVE
GAM-
BLER."



GOOD
MORNING,
SUZUI-
SAN!

G'MORN-
ING,
JABAMI-
SAN.

HUH?

OH, THAT
WON'T DO AT
ALL. WE'VE
BECOME
FRIENDS,
HAVEN'T
WE?

"YUMEKO"

...

...CALL
ME
THAT.

HN
!?

UH...
OKAY...

CHAPTER TWO
ABORING GIRL

AND...

...HER
EYES.

EVEN
THOUGH A
DAY HAS
ALREADY
PASSED,
IT STILL
DOESN'T
FEEL
REAL.

...GAM-
BLED WITH
10,000,000
YEN ON THE
LINE, ON
HER FIRST
DAY AFTER
TRANSFER-
RING HERE.
THEN...

THAT A
GENTLE
GIRL
LIKE
HER...

AND NOT
ONLY THAT,
BUT SHE
WAS ABLE
TO USE
THE FACT
THAT THEY
WORKED
FOR HER
TO HER
ADVAN-
TAGE AND
WIN...

...SCIS-
SORS.
♡

...WHEN
OVER HALF
THE CLASS
WAS
WORKING
FOR
SAOTOME,
SHE WAS
ABLE
TO SEE
THROUGH
IT.

**THIS
GIRL**

TEE
HEE
HEE!

...

THERE'S
ONE THING
I'VE
LEARNED
FOR SURE.

SCRATCH

UH
...
UH...

I OWE YOU A
GREAT DEBT...
YUMEKO.

I WON'T
BE ABLE TO PAY
BACK 5,000,000
YEN RIGHT AWAY,
BUT I WILL
EVENTUALLY...

THAT
WAS A
GIFT TO
YOU.
PLEASE
DO NOT
WORRY
ABOUT
IT.



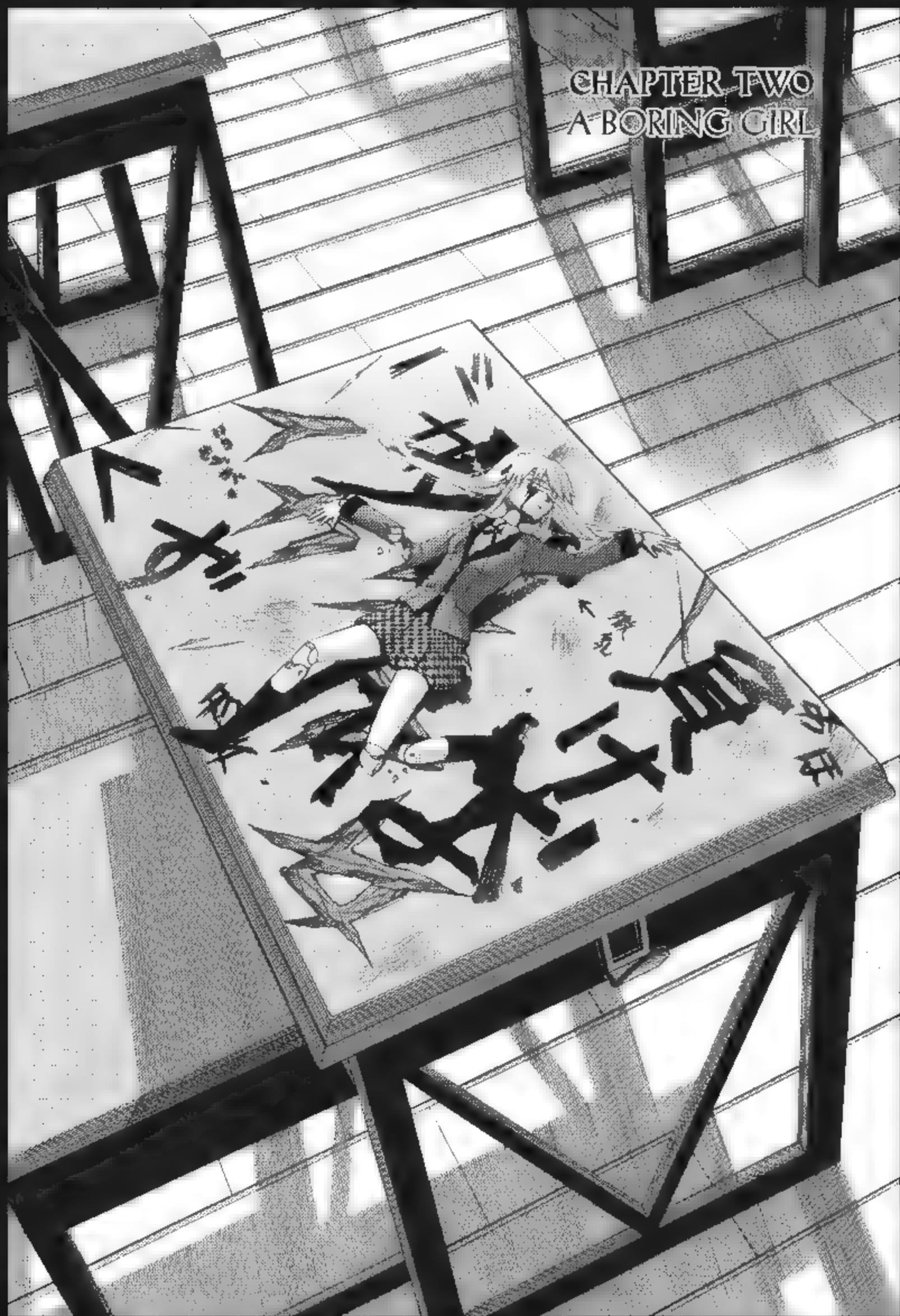
...IS
**NOT
NOR-
MAL.**

CLATTER

NOT
THAT I'D
BE ABLE TO
PAY IT BACK
ANYWAY,
BUT
STILL...

N-NO...
I CAN'T
DO THAT...

CHAPTER TWO A BORING GIRL

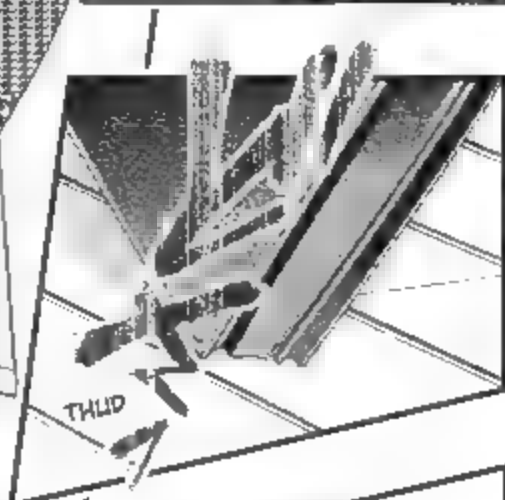


TABLE, NUMB SKULL, LOSER, IDIOT, TRASH, TINY TITS



...
UHH.

WH...
WHAT'S
GOING ON?
ISN'T THAT
HER DESK
...?



...UM,
SAO-
TOME-
SAN.

WHAT
IN THE
WORLD
IS GOING
ON?

SHUT
YER
HOLE



THIS
HAP-
PENED
BE-
CAUSE
...

...I
LOST
TO
YOU!

...
REALLY?

WHAT-
EVER I
CAN...

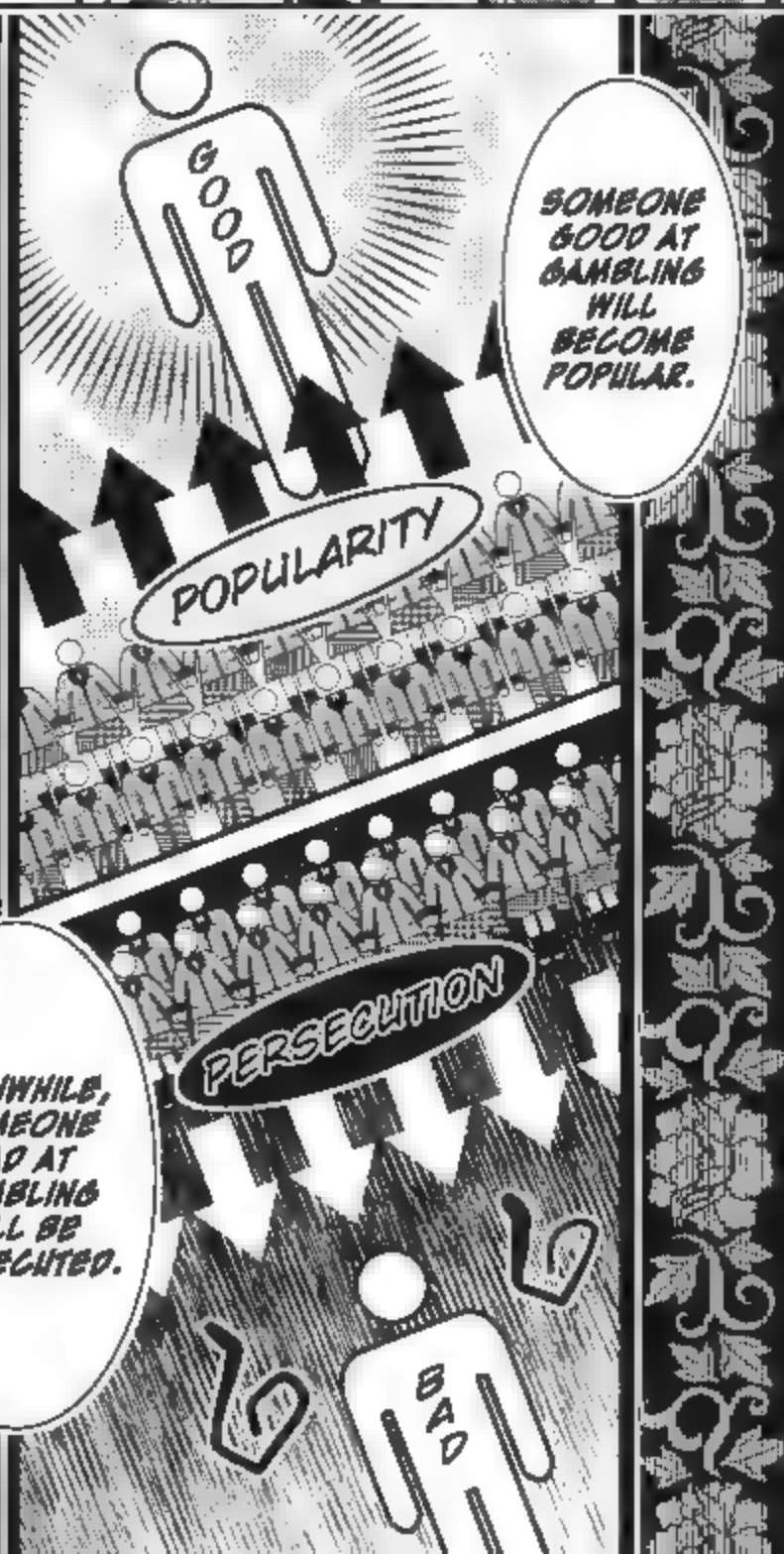
BITE
I'VE
GOT TO DO
WHATEVER
I CAN TO
RECOVER
FROM
THIS...

CAN
I TALK
TO YOU
A SEC,
YUMEKO?

MUMBLE
MUMBLE



WHAT
YOU SAW
BACK THERE
WAS A
"TRADITION"
AT THIS
ACADEMY.



SOMEONE
GOOD AT
GAMBLING
WILL
BECOME
POPULAR.

POPULARITY

MEANWHILE,
SOMEONE
BAD AT
GAMBLING
WILL BE
PERSECUTED.

PERSECUTION

BAD



"TRADI-
TION"
...?

YEAH.
THE MOST
IMPORTANT
THING AT
HYAKKAOU
ACADEMY
IS BEING
GOOD AT
GAMBLING.



THAT
CHANGED
TWO
YEARS
AGO...

HUH...

...IT
WASN'T
THAT BAD
REALLY,
IN THE
PAST.

...WHEN
THE
CURRENT
STUDENT
COUNCIL
PRESIDENT
TOOK
OFFICE.

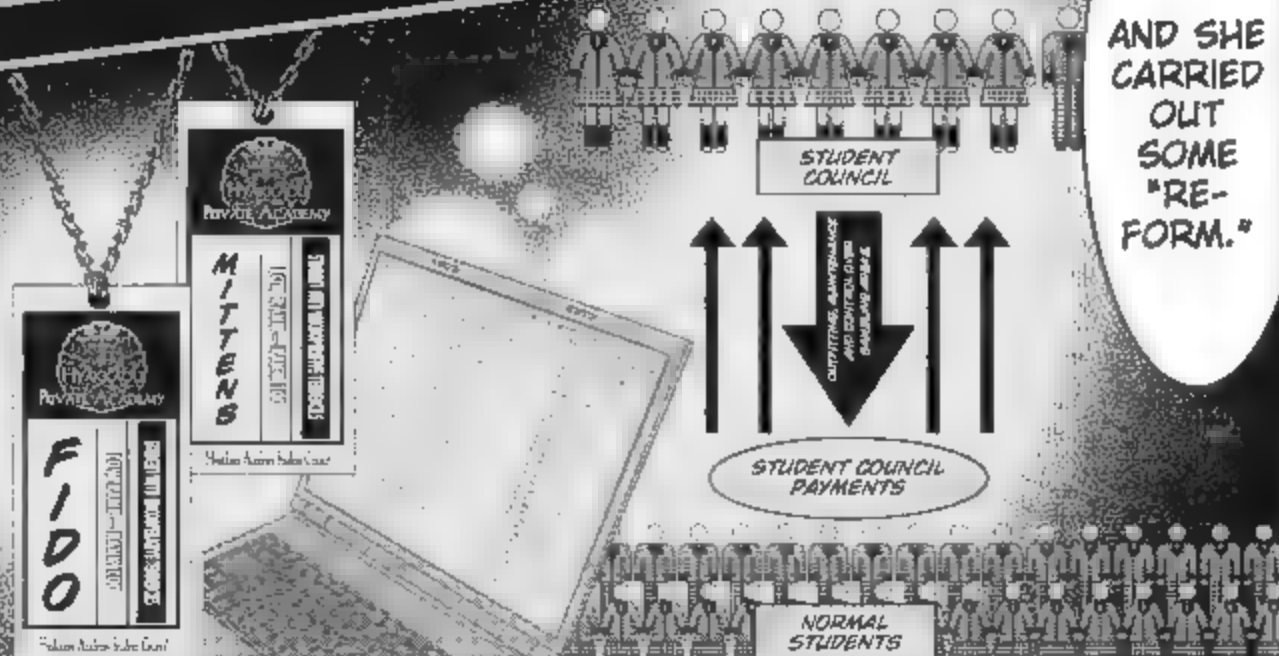


THIS GIRL
MANAGED TO
JUMP INTO THE
HIGH SCHOOL
AND ASSUMED
THE ROLE OF
PRESIDENT OF
THE STUDENT
COUNCIL WHEN
SHE WAS IN
HER FIRST
YEAR.

HYAKKAOU
ACADEMY
HAS MIDDLE
AND HIGH
SCHOOL
STUDENTS
WITHIN.

AND SHE
CARRIED
OUT
SOME
"RE-
FORM."

THAT'S
WHEN THE
"STUDENT
COUNCIL
PAYMENTS"
AND "FIDO/
MITTENS
SYSTEM"
CAME TO
BE.



BUT
THIS GIRL
WASN'T
ELECTED
INTO HER
POSITION...

THERE'S
NO LIMIT
SET UP FOR
WHAT YEAR
YOU HAVE TO
BE IN FOR THE
ELECTIONS.
SO THERE'S
NO ISSUE
THERE.

IS
IT EVEN
POSSIBLE
FOR SOMEONE
TO BECOME
STUDENT
COUNCIL
PRESIDENT
WHEN THEY'RE
A FIRST
YEAR?



OF COURSE,
HOUSEPETS
ARE TREATED
BADLY, BUT
PEOPLE BAD
AT GAMBLING
EXPERIENCE
HARDSHIPS
AS WELL.

SINCE
SHE TOOK
OFFICE, THE
CASTE DISCRIMI-
NATION HAS
GOTTEN
MUCH
WORSE...



CLINK

THOUGH,
SAO-
TOME'S
CASE IS
A BIT
EXTREME
...

SHE
GAMBLLED
WITH...
...THE
PREVIOUS
PRESIDENT,
WITH THE
POSITION
ON THE
LINE.



MY
GOODNESS,
THE MORE
YOU
TELL ME
ABOUT
THIS
PLACE...

SHUDDER

TWINGE


I'M SO
GLAD
THAT I
TRANS-
FERRED
HERE...



...THE
MORE
CLEAR IT
BECOMES
THAT IT
IS NOT A
NORMAL
ACADEMY.

UH
...!

DID I
FRIGHTEN
HER...?



IT
SEEMS
LIKE THINGS
OTHER THAN
MONEY CAN
BE WAGERED,
BUT WHAT
ARE THE
LIMITS OF
THAT?

ARE
OUR GRADES
CONTROLLED
VIA GAMBLING
AS WELL,
BY ANY
CHANCE?

ARE
ORIGINAL
GAMES LIKE
THE ONE
I PLAYED
YESTERDAY
COMMONPLACE?
HOW DO I
COLLECT MY
WINNINGS?

SO WHAT
TYPES OF
GAMBLING
ARE
POPULAR
IN THIS
SCHOOL?

...IS
SHE
NOT
AFRAID
OF ANY
OF
THIS?

WHAT
SORT OF
PENALTIES
DO THE FIDO
AND MITTENS
STUDENTS
HAVE TO DEAL
WITH?

OH, THAT?
ANYONE CAN BE
RELEASED FROM
HOUSEPET STATUS
VIA A "SPECIAL
STUDENT COUNCIL
PAYMENT" OF
1,000,000 YEN.

OH, THAT
REMINDS ME.
SPEAKING OF
HOUSEPETS...
YOU DON'T HAVE
YOUR NAME
BADGE OUT
WHERE WE CAN
SEE IT.





I'VE
GOT A
STRAIGHT.

THAT
MEANS
I WIN!

HER
NAME IS
ITSUKI
SUMERAGI.
SHE'S A
FIRST-
YEAR.

I HEARD
THAT SHE
PAID A
LARGE SUM
TO BE LET
INTO THE
STUDENT
COUNCIL.

NOT
ONLY
IS SHE
REALLY
RICH, BUT
SHE'S
GOOD AT
GAMBLING
TOO.

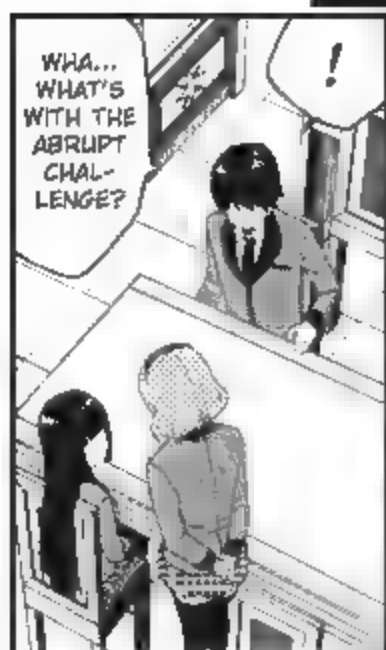
IT SEEMS
THAT SHE'S
UNDEFEATED
AT CARD
GAMES.

THANKS
FOR THE
GAME.

LET'S
PLAY
AGAIN
SOME-
TIME!

HER
DAD IS THE
PRESIDENT OF
A PROMINENT
TOY COMPANY
IN JAPAN.





WHA...
WHAT'S
WITH THE
ABRUPT
CHAL-
LENGE?



YOU'RE
THE TALK
OF THE
SCHOOL,
JABAMI-
SENPAL!

...
WOULD
YOU
LIKE TO
GAMBLE
WITH
ME?

I KNOW
THIS IS
SUDDEN,
BUT...

NICE
TO MEET
YOU!



...YOU
MADE A
FOOL OF
SAOTOME-
SENPAL IN
A GAME...

ABOUT
HOW ON
YOUR
FIRST
DAY
HERE...



SO I
THOUGHT IT
MIGHT BE FUN
TO COMPARE
OUR SKILLS.

I'M
PRETTY
GOOD AT
GAMBLING
MYSELF,
Y'SEE.

UGH...
SO THE
STORY HAS
SPREAD
ALREADY,
HUH?



WHAT
IS YOUR
NAME
AGAIN?

HEE
HEE ...
THAT
CERTAINLY
DOES
SOUND
FUN.



WELL,
SUME-
RAGI-
SAN...

...I
WEL-
COME
YOUR
CHAL-
LENCE.



I'M
ITSUKI
SUME-
RAGI.
♪



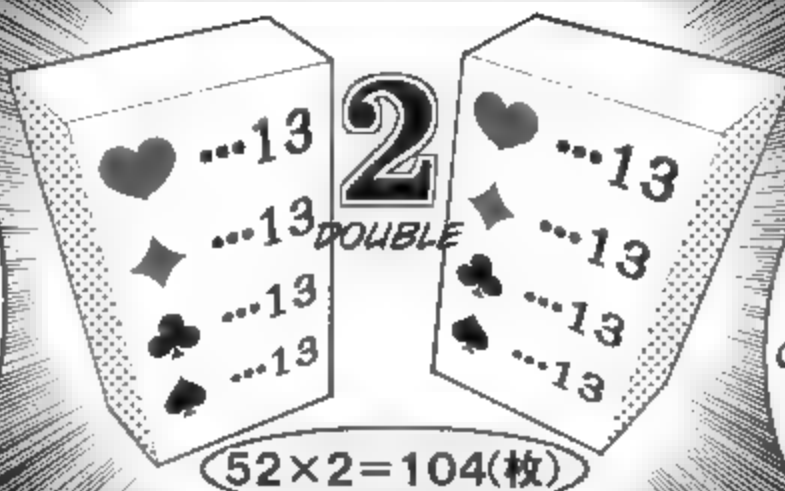
LOOKS
LIKE MY
WARNING
MEANT
NOTHING...

SHE
SURE IS
QUICK TO
ACCEPT...

I
THOUGHT
YOU
WOULD.

AH-
HA!

AS
THE NAME
SUGGESTS,
THIS IS JUST
MEMORY
USING TWO
DECKS OF
CARDS.



$$52 \times 2 = 104 (\text{枚})$$

LABEL: 104 CARDS

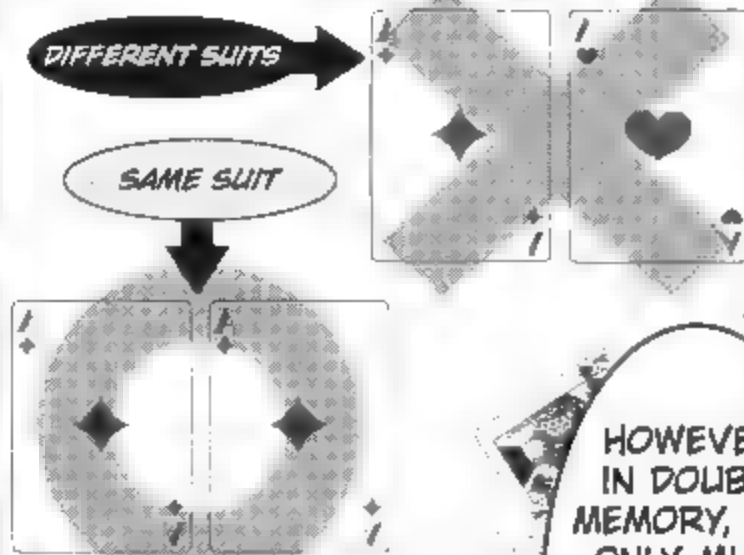
OKAY?

... "DOUBLE
MEMORY."

NOW
THEN,
THE
GAME
WE'LL BE
PLAYING
IS
CALLED
...

DIFFERENT SUITS

SAME SUIT



IN
NORMAL
MEMORY
YOU SIMPLY
MATCH UP
THE NUM-
BERS ON
THE CARD
TO GET A
POINT.

HOWEVER,
IN DOUBLE
MEMORY, NOT
ONLY MUST
THE NUMBERS
MATCH, BUT
THE SUIT
MUST MATCH
AS WELL.

IN OTHER
WORDS, EVERY
CARD ONLY HAS
ONE MATCH IN
THE 104 CARD
DECK.



I DEFINITELY
WANNA TRY!

THAT
SOUNDS
FUN!

I
SEE...



IT'S HER
SECOND
DAY AT
THIS
SCHOOL...

.....

...AND
EVERYONE
IN THE
ACADEMY
IS ALREADY
TALKING
ABOUT
HER.



WAIT,
WHAT?

STUDENT
COUNCILWOMAN
SUMERAGI IS
GAMBLING?



WITH
WHO?

THAT
TRANSFER
STUDENT
EVERYONE'S
TALKING
ABOUT...



FOR
REAL?
NOW
THAT'S
WORTH
SEEING.



WHEN
YOU PLAYED
SAOTOME-
SENPAI,
YOU BET
10,000,000
YEN, RIGHT?

OKAY!

NOW,
TIME
TO TALK
BETS.



SO I'M
STARTING
OFF
WITH...

...
**20,000,000
YEN!**

**WHAT
DO YOU
THINK? THIS
IS DOUBLING
UP YOUR BET
FROM LAST
TIME.**



TUG

HAY

THESE
ARE
STUDENT
COUNCIL
ISSUED
1,000,000
YEN
CHIPS.



I'LL USE
TWENTY OF
THEM.



I'M
SORRY
...



IS
SHE FOR
REAL?
THIS IS
A HUGE
MATCH!

20,000,000
YEN...!?





THAT
RUMOR
CAN'T BE
TRUE,
CAN
IT...?

TO BE
HONEST,
20,000,000
YEN REALLY
ISN'T THAT
BIG OF A
DEAL TO
ME.

WHAT
IN THE
WORLD...?
WHAT
DOES
SHE GET
OUT OF
LOANING
YUMEKO
THAT KIND
OF
MONEY?

GETTING
EVERYONE ELSE
INTERESTED IN MY
COMPANY'S CARDS
WILL BE FAR MORE
PROFITABLE IN
THE END.

PLUS,
IT'S
GOOD
FOR
PR.
♪



OKAY,
THEN!
WE'VE
SET-
TLED
THE
TERMS
FOR
THE
GAME!

Y...
YUMEKO!
YOU
SHOULDN'T
JUST...!

SLAP



IF
THAT'S
THE
CASE,
THEN
BY ALL
MEANS.

!

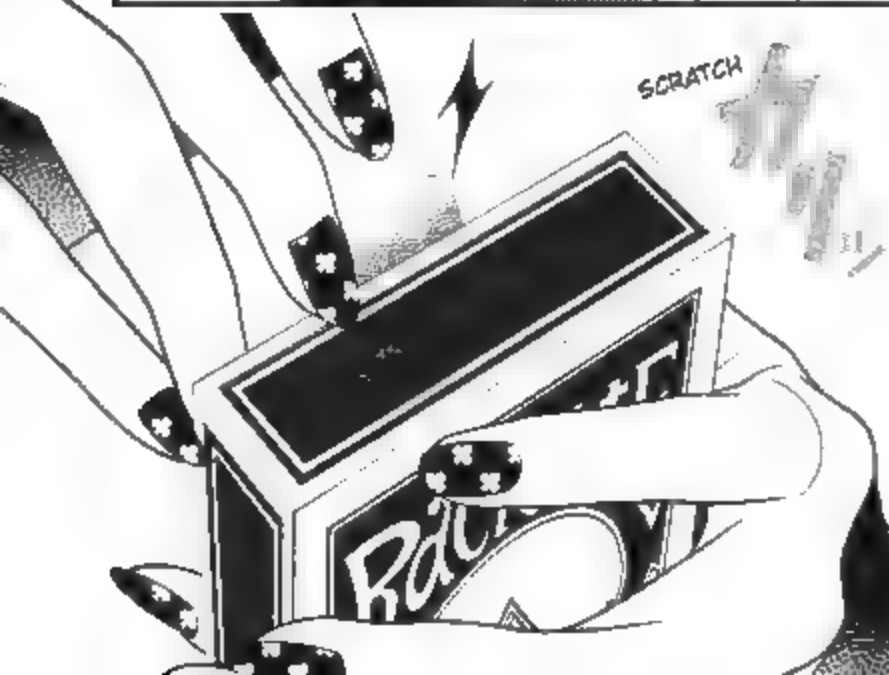


IT'S THE
SECOND
MOST
POPULAR
BRAND OF
CARDS IN
JAPAN.

MY
COMPANY'S
TOP
PRODUCT:
RA-
CLETTE.



AS I
MENTIONED
BEFORE,
WE'LL BE
USING TWO
BRAND NEW
DECKS OF
CARDS.



IS SHE
REALLY
PRO-
MOTING
IT RIGHT
NOW...?

PLEASE
BUY
SOME!

ONE
OF ITS
SELLING
POINTS
IS HOW
GOOD
THEY
FEEL IN
YOUR
HANDS!





WIN CONDITIONS

SO THAT MEANS THE ONLY REAL WAY TO WIN IS TO REMEMBER ALL OF THE CARDS YOU'VE FLIPPED OVER BEFORE... BUT THERE'S NO WAY SOMEONE COULD REMEMBER THE LOCATIONS OF 103 DIFFERENT CARDS.

GET LUCKY AND DRAW THE MATCH WITH 1/103 CHANCE

or

MEMORIZE ALL 103 CARD POSITIONS

SINCE THERE'S ONLY ONE CARD YOU CAN MAKE A MATCH WITH, THE CHANCES OF GETTING A MATCH BY LUCK IS 1/103.

BOTH ARE SUPER HARD!





THE
FOUR
OF DIA-
MONDS
...

...OH
MY.



THE
SIX OF
CLUBS.

SEVEN
OF
CLUBS...

I CAN'T
DO IT. I TRIED
MEMORIZING
ALL THE CARD
POSITIONS,
BUT MY HEAD
STARTED
TO HURT...

HMM
...



I'M
PRETTY
SURE IT
WAS...

A FOUR OF
DIAMONDS SHOWED
UP BEFORE...IT WAS...
HMM...I CAN'T
REMEMBER AT
ALL!

AH!



THAT'S
A
POINT,
RIGHT?

OH!
NOW
SHE'S
GOT
ONE
PAIR.

YEP, AND
SINCE YOU
FOUND A
MATCH,
GO
AHEAD. YOU
CAN PICK
AGAIN.



...RIGHT
HERE.



THE
QUEEN
OF
HEARTS.

THAT'S
A
MATCH.

LOOKS
LIKE IT'S TRUE.
THE TWO OF THEM
ARE BOTH GOOD
AT MEMORY.



THAT'S
A
MATCH!

THE
TWO
OF
CLUBS.

SU-
MERAGI
ISN'T
LOSING
EITHER.



DOES
THAT
MEAN
HER
CONFI-
DENCE
ISN'T
JUST
FOR
SHOW
...?



OH-
HO.

I RE-
MEMBER
SEEING A
KING OF
CLUBS
BEFORE.



THE
SEVEN
OF DIA-
MONDS.

THE
KING OF
CLUBS.
ANOTHER
MISS...



RIGHT
HERE.

...

THE
EIGHT
OF DIA-
MONDS.

THE
JACK OF
HEARTS.

THE
THREE
OF
HEARTS.

THE
FIVE
OF
CLUBS.





...
ALREADY
SEEN
THAT
ONCE
BE-
FORE.

!!
I
TOLD
YOU!

THERE'S
104
CARDS!

...
REMEMBERING
THE LOCATIONS
OF ALL
THE CARDS
SHE'S SEEN
BEFORE!?

IS
SHE
SERI-
OUSLY
...

IF
THEY'RE
BOTH
EVENLY
MATCHED IN
TERMS OF
MEMORY,
THEN...

...
THAT'S
A
MATCH.

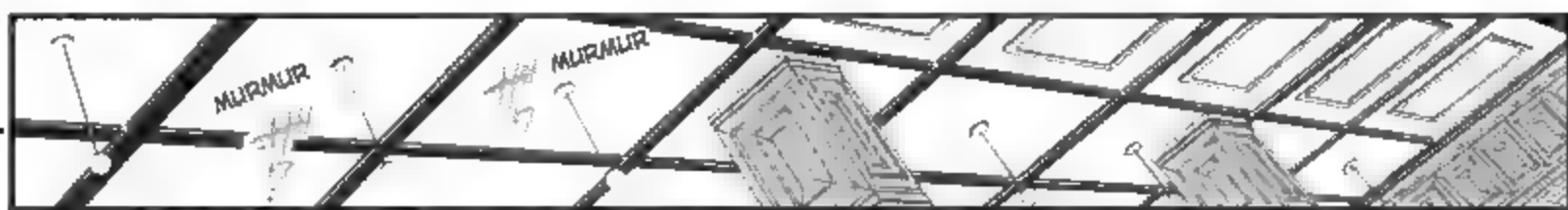
THE
THREE
OF
SPADES.



JACK
THAT'S OF
A CLUBS.
MATCH.

NINE
OF
HEARTS.
AN-
OTHER
MATCH.

...IT
JUST
BECOMES
A MATCH
OF WHO
IS LUCKY
ENOUGH TO
FLIP OVER
A CARD
WHOSE
MATCH
THEY'VE
ALREADY
SEEN
....!



YUMEKO
HAS THIRTY-
SIX CARDS.
SUMERAGI
HAS FORTY.
IT'S STILL
JUST AS
CLOSE AS
EVER...!

ONLY
TWENTY-
EIGHT
LEFT.

THERE'S
A LOT
LESS
CARDS
LEFT...



OH MY.

IT HONORS ME FOR YOU TO SAY SO.

WELL, NOW, YOU SURE CAN GAMBLE, JABAMI-SENPAI.

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE HAD A GAME THAT WAS THIS GOOD.



NOW THEN, I MUST FOCUS ...

AH. A MATCH.



AND NEXT UP...

OH. THIS CAME UP BEFORE.



...IS A MATCH AS WELL.

WHA ...?

HUH ?

AND THEN THIS ONE...



BUT THIS IS WHERE IT'LL START GETTING TOUGH.

THE LESS CARDS THERE ARE TOTAL, THE EASIER IT WILL BE TO FIND MATCHES.

THE GAME WILL SURELY TAKE A TURN HERE...!

OH ...?

**I'VE
GOTTEN
TEN
CARDS
IN A
ROW...**

**LOOKS
LIKE
LADY
LUCK IS
SMILING
UPON
ME.**







...HER
MISTAKE
WAS THAT
SHE DIDN'T
ACCOUNT FOR
THE FACT
THAT HER
OPPONENT
COULD HAVE
AN EQUALLY
GOOD
MEMORY.



BUT
...

YU-
MEKO'S
MEMORY
WAS
PRETTY
AMAZ-
ING.



A 20,000,000
YEN DEBT.

WHAT
IS SHE
GONNA
DO?

SHE SAID
SHE DIDN'T
HAVE THAT
KIND OF
MONEY.

...SU-
MERAGI-
SAN.

I CAN'T
AFFORD TO
PAY YOU
20,000,000
YEN...



...AND SINCE
I HAVE THE
SAME ABILITY
TO REMEMBER
THE LOCATIONS
OF THE CARDS
AS YOU
DO...



...I CANNOT
UNDERSTAND
WHY I LOST!



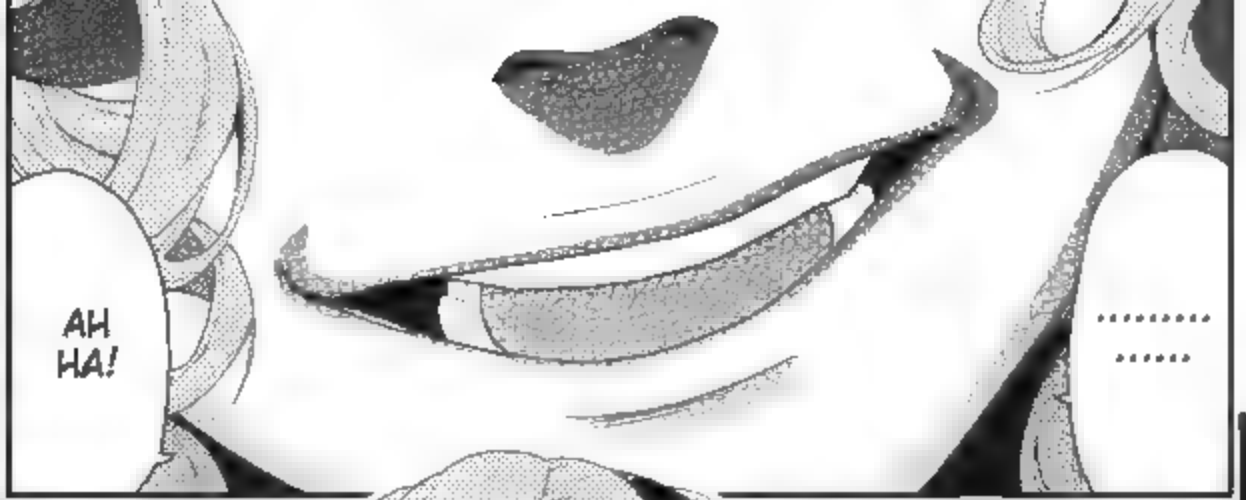
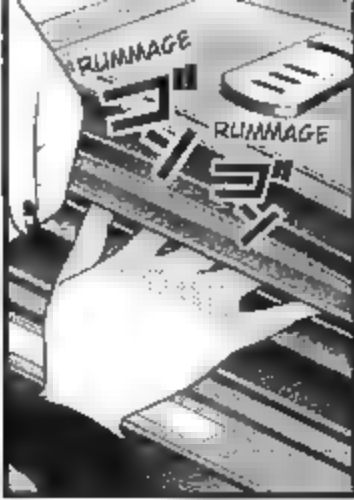
CAN
HE...



...PLAY
ANOTHER
MATCH?

SO
PLEASE,
GIVE
ME THE
CHANCE
TO PLAY
YOU
ONCE
MORE
...!





AH
HA!

.....
.....



OF
COURSE,
THIS IS
ONLY
A PART
OF MY
COLLEC-
TION.

WHAT
IN THE
...?



WHAT
DO YOU
THINK?
PRETTY
CUTE,
RIGHT?

BUT THE
TRUTH IS...
THERE'S
A LITTLE
SECRET
ABOUT
THEM.

I'VE
GOT A
PRETTY BIG
COLLECTION
OF THEM.

Y'SEE,
NAILS
ARE A
HOBBY OF
MINE.



TMP

**THEY'RE
ALL
ACTUAL
HUMAN
FINGER-
NAILS.**

SO I'LL
PUT ANOTHER
20,000,000
YEN ON THE
LINE.

SO
MOST OF
THE ONES I
HAVE WERE
TAKEN AS
GAMBLING
DEBTS.

WITH THE
KIND OF
MONEY I
HAVE, IT
WOULD BE
EASY TO
BUY THEM.
BUT NO
ONE WILL
SELL
ACTUAL
HUMAN
NAILS TO
ME.

HUH
...?

...



....I
WANT
YOUR
NAILS.

BUT
JA-
BAMI-
SENPAI
...



MURMUR

WHA...!?



Y-
YUMEKO.
DON'T
LISTEN
TO HER
IDIOTIC
STORY.

THE RUMOR
THAT THERE
WAS A GIRL
IN FIRST
YEAR WHO
FORCES
PEOPLE TO
BET THEIR
NAILS BY
PUTTING
THEM IN
DEBT...!

S-SO
THE
RUMOR
WAS
TRUE.



VERY
WELL...
I ACCEPT
YOUR CON-
DITIONS.



AH
HA!



HEY,
WHAT'RE
YOU
SAYING!?

WHA
...!?



UNLESS
YOU
WANT TO
PAY HER
FOR ME,
SUZU-
SAN...

BUT
THERE'S
NO OTHER
WAY FOR
ME TO
GET THE
MONEY
BACK!

THAT'S
IMPOSSI-
BLE...

UGH
...



IF
I LOSE,
I WILL
GIVE UP
20,000,000
YEN. IF
YOU LOSE,
JABAMI-
SENPAI,
YOU'LL
GIVE UP
THE NAILS
ON YOUR
FINGERS
AND TOES.
IS THAT
OKAY?

SHALL
WE
BE-
GIN?



THIS IS NUTS.
EVEN AT THIS
ACADEMY,
GAMBLING THAT
HAS PHYSICAL
INJURY ON
THE LINE IS
RELATIVELY
RARE.

A GAME OF
MEMORY
WITH
20,000,000
YEN AND A
PERSON'S
NAILS ON
THE LINE...

THEY'RE
REALLY
GONNA DO
THIS...?

THEY'RE
GONNA
START.



THIS
ISN'T
SOME
KIND OF
JOKE!
Y-KNOW...!

BUT EVEN
THEN, THE
CROWD IS
REALLY
GETTING
EXCITED.





...I
KNOW
EXACTLY
WHERE
ALL
FIFTY-
TWO OF
THEM
ARE.



...OUT
OF ALL
THE
FACE-
DOWN
CARDS
ON THE
TABLE

...

THERE'S
ONE THING
ABOUT
THEM
THAT'S
DIFFERENT
FROM
NORMAL
CARDS.

BUT THE
TRUTH OF
THE MATTER
IS, IT'S A
SPECIAL DECK
FROM A LINE
THAT I'VE
PERSONALLY
CREATED.



AT FIRST
GLANCE,
ONE OF
THE DECKS
WE'RE USING
MIGHT NOT
LOOK ANY
DIFFERENT
FROM MY
COMPANY'S
NORMAL
CARDS.

THERE'S
A CIRCUIT
IN MY BAG
THAT
KEEPS
THEM
WARM.



IF
THE
CARDS
GO
ABOVE
A CER-
TAIN
TEM-
PERA-
TURE,
PAR-
TIC-
ULAR
MARKS
SHOW
UP ON
THE
BACK
OF
THE
CARDS.


SO NOW
THAT THEY'RE
LINED UP, IT'S
ABOUT TWO OR
THREE MINUTES
BEFORE THEY
COOL BACK DOWN.
BUT UNTIL THEN,
THE MARKS
REMAIN.



ALL
I HAVE TO
DO IS USE
THAT TO
MEMORIZE
THE CARDS.
THERE'S NO
WAY I CAN
LOSE.



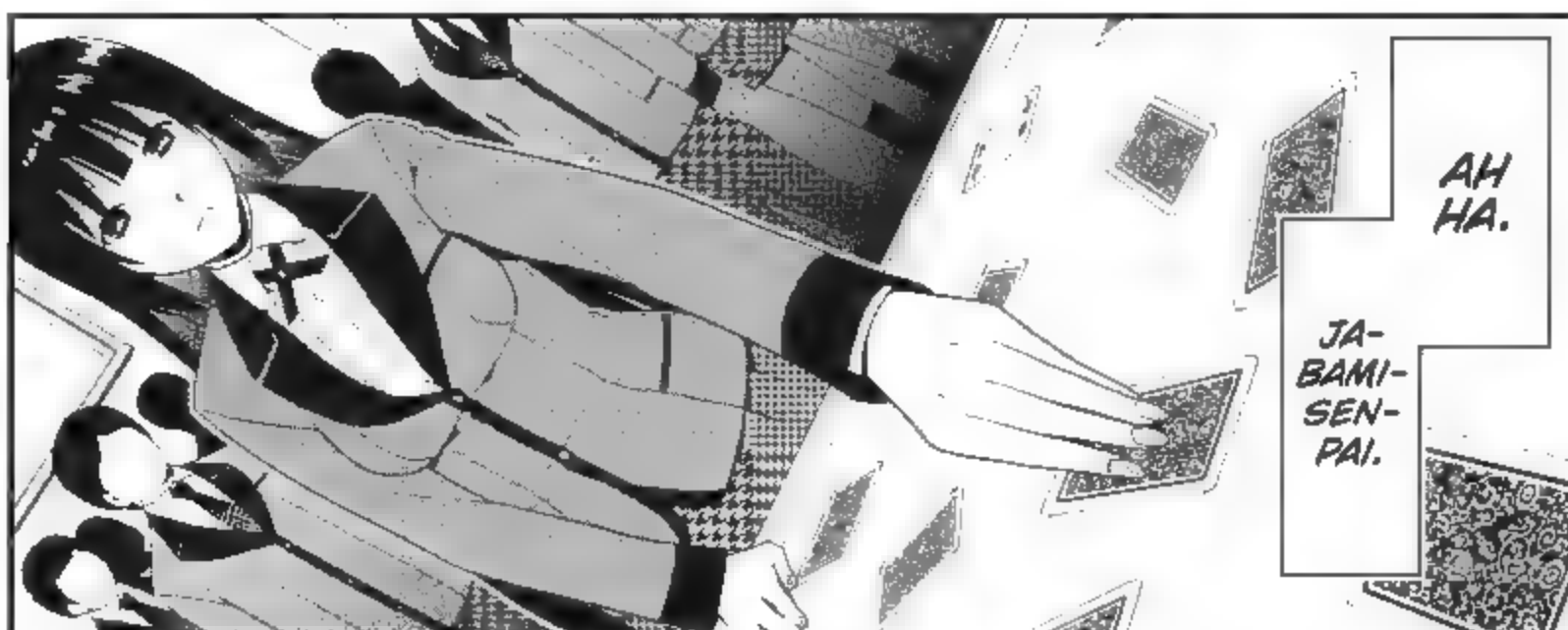
IT'S
A VERY
SMALL
CHANGE,
AND IT
GOES AWAY
QUICKLY.
SO I WON'T
GET
CAUGHT.



I HAD
TO WORK
HARD IN
ORDER TO
MEMORIZE
THE MARKS
QUICKLY,
BUT IT PAID
OFF IN
SPADES.

NO MATTER IF
YOU'RE PLAY-
ING
POKER OR
OLD MAID, IF
YOU KNOW
WHAT ALL THE
CARDS ARE,
YOU'LL WIN.

THE
REASON
I CHOSE
TO PLAY
"DOUBLE"
MEMORY WAS
NOT ONLY TO
UP THE
DIFFICULTY
FOR MY
OPPONENT,
BUT ALSO TO
AVOID THEM
GETTING A
LUCKY WIN.



AH
HA.

JA-
BAMI-
SEN-
PAI.



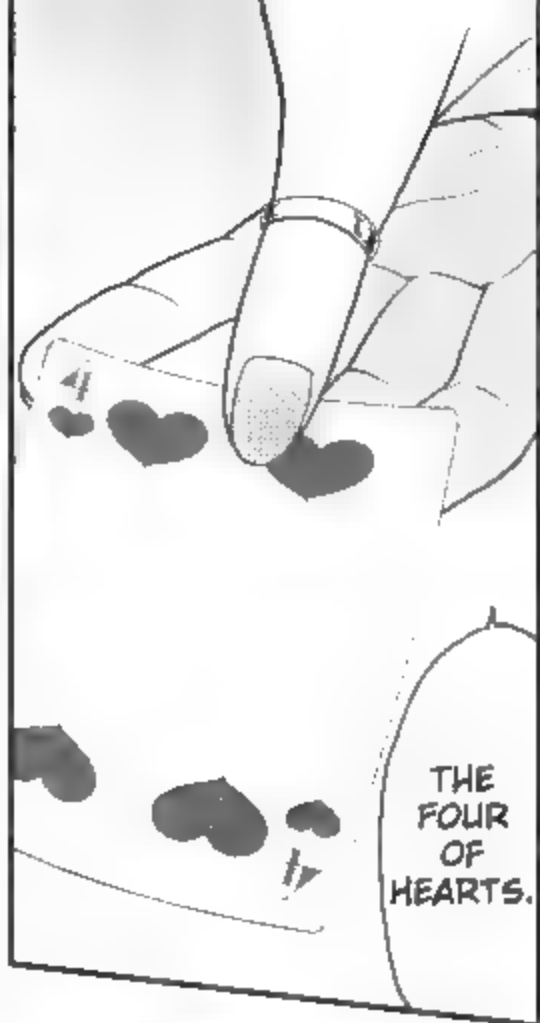
...
TAKING
YOUR
NAILS
SOON.

I'LL
BE...



SHE GOT
A MATCH
ON HER
FIRST TURN.
THAT'S SO
LUCKY.

OH...
SHE
GOT A
MATCH.



THE
FOUR
OF
HEARTS.



BY THE
WAY,
SUME-
RAGI-
SAN...

...



YES.
WHAT
OF
IT?

I HEARD
THAT YOUR
FAMILY IS
A FAMOUS
TOYMAKER,
YES?

THAT
SOME-
HOW
DOESN'T
SEEM
WORTH
IT,
DOES
IT?

TEN
BILLION
YEN?

OR IS
IT MORE
LIKE A
HUNDRED
BILLION
YEN...?

WITH
THAT
BIG OF A
BUSINESS,
JUST HOW
MUCH
IS YOUR
FAMILY
WORTH?



AND YET,
YOU'RE
ONLY
BETTING
TWENTY
MILLION
YEN.

HHH
...?



...TO GIVE
YOU ONE
PIECE OF
ADVICE.

ALLOW
ME...

...YOU
HAD
BEST
MAKE
SURE
YOU
ARE
DULY
PRE-
PARED.



BEFORE
DOING
SOME-
THING
LIKE
BETTING
YOUR
PAR-
ENTS'
BUSI-
NESS...

IT
CAN'T
BE...


SHUDDER

SHE...

HUH
...?

WHAT'S
SHE
TALKING
ABOUT...?
MY
PARENTS'
BUSINESS
...?

...FIGURED OUT MY TRICK...!




IT'S
CERTAINLY
TRUE THAT IF
A TOY COMPANY
WERE REVEALED
TO BE MAKING
CARDS USED FOR
CHEATING...

AND
THEN
...
OH,
LOOK.
ANOTHER
FOUR
OF DIA-
MONDS.

IS SHE
THREAT-
ENING
ME!?

...IT WOULD
CAUSE SERIOUS
DAMAGE TO THE
BUSINESS.



NO.
THERE'S
STILL A
CHANCE
SHE'S
BLUFFING

HOW MUCH
DOES SHE
KNOW? DID
SHE NOTICE
THE DISAP-
PEARING
PATTERNS
ON THE
CARDS?



THAT'S
ALL I CAN
DO...

THEN, I'LL
REPLACE
THEM WITH
A NORMAL
DECK.

WITH
THINGS THE
WAY THEY ARE,
I'LL HAVE TO
FLIP OVER ALL
OF THE CARDS
ON MY TURN,
AND COLLECT
THEM.

...THIS
IS BAD.

ONCE I
TAKE MY
TURN...

MY
TURN...

WHOA
...

MURMUR

HOW
...?

MURMUR

WAIT
...

!!?

YU...
YUME-
KO...?



**FIFTY-
FOUR
CARDS.**

**THAT
MEANS
I WIN.**

**FIFTY-FOUR
CARDS ON
HER FIRST
TURN?
THAT'S
FISHY...**

**H
U
H
!?**



...
...
...
HOW
...
HOW
...
...DID
YOU
KNOW
WHAT
THE
CARDS
WERE!?



IF YOU
WERE JUST
A BIT MORE
CAREFUL,
I WOULD
HAVE LOST.



HUH...?



WELL,
THE MARKS
ON THE BACK
OF THE CARDS
ARE THE SAME
AS THE LAST
GAME,
RIGHT?

IF
YOU'D
PREPARED
ANOTHER
DECK WITH A
DIFFERENT
PATTERN,
IT'D HAVE
BEEN ALL
OVER FOR
ME.

SHE...
MEMO-
RIZED
THEM
ALL!?

HUH
....!?

AND
HER BEING
ALL UPSET
AFTER
LOSING
WAS ONLY
JUST AN
ACT...

SO
PLEASE,
GIVE
ME THE
CHANCE
TO PLAY
FOR
ONCE
MORE...

AND
THAT
SHE
PLAYED
PRE-
TENDING
THAT
SHE
DIDN'T
KNOW
THEM.

IF
THAT'S THE
CASE, THAT
MEANS SHE
NOTICED THE
PATTERNS
FROM
THE VERY
BEGINNING
OF THE FIRST
GAME.



IS THAT EVEN HUMANLY POSSIBLE?

BUT
EVEN
IF
THAT'S
THE
CASE
...

...THE
PATTERN
ON THE
CARDS
ONLY
SHOW
UP FOR
ABOUT
TWO OR
THREE
MIN-
UTES.

SHE
WOULD'VE
HAD TO
MEMORIZE
ALL OF THE
PATTERNS
FIRST AND
THEN CONNECT
THEM TO THE
CONTENTS
OF THE FLIPPED
CARDS AS THEY
WERE FLIPPED.

N...NO
THANKS.
I'M
DONE
...

WHAT
SHALL
WE PLAY?
BLACK-
JACK?
BACCA-
RAT?

OR DO
YOU
WANT
TO
PLAY
MEM-
ORY
AGAIN?

HUH
...?

THIS
GAME
IS
OVER!
LET'S
PLAY A
DIFFER-
ENT
ONE!


NOW,
THEN.

OH?

DO YOU
ACTUALLY
THINK
YOU'RE
IN A
POSITION
TO
REFUSE?

AH,
THAT'S
RIGHT...

EFP
...



IF YOU PUT
EVEN THE
SLIGHTEST
BURDEN ON
YOUR FINGERS,
BLOOD WILL
OOZE OUT.

I'VE
HEARD
THAT THE
PAIN GETS
WORSE
AFTER THE
NAILS ARE
REMOVED.

AND SINCE
WE'D BE DOING
IT TO ALL OF
OUR FINGERS
AND TOES, IT
WOULD MAKE
EVERYDAY
LIFE VERY
DIFFICULT.

THE
IDEA OF
HAVING
A REAL
MATCH
WITH
THAT
KIND OF
RISK
ON THE
LINE...

...JUST
IMAGINING
IT...

WITH THE
TERMS OF
"IF YOU
LOSE, YOU
HAVE TO
HAVE ALL THE
NAILS OF
YOUR HANDS
AND FEET
RIPPED
OFF!"

HOW
ABOUT
WE BOTH
PUT OUR
NAILS ON
THE LINE
THIS
TIME?

I MEAN,
YOU'RE THE
ONE WHO CAME
UP WITH THAT
IN THE FIRST
PLACE. SO YOU
DON'T MIND,
RIGHT?

B...

BUT...



...IT
GETS
ME
SO
EX-
CIT-
ED.



THIS IS A
ONCE IN A
LIFETIME
OPPORTU-
NITY!

NOW
THEN,
SUME-
RAGI-
SANI!

SLAM

...
C'MON.

LET'S
DO
THIS!

YOU
CONFIDENTLY
CHEATED IN
A GAMBLE
AND STILL
MANAGED
TO LOSE.

ALL
YOU
NEED
TO DO
IS NOD
YOUR
HEAD IN
AGREE-
MENT.

HUR-
RY!

WHAT
WILL
HAPPEN
IF YOU
DON'T
RID
YOUR-
SELF
OF
THAT
SHAME
!?

NOW
...

EEK!



EEK
....!

I-I
CAN'T
DO
IT...

SNFF
....!

I-I
JUST
CAN'T.

UU
...

p-
PLEASE
FORGIVE
ME....!



H
U
H?
?

.....



.....!



YUMEKO...
SHE'S
BEGGING
FOR
FORGIVE-
NESS...



IT WAS SO COOL!

MAN, I WANTED TO SEE THAT MATCH WHERE THEY BET THEIR NAILS.



HMM ...?

HOW BORING

...SO THAT'S HOW IT ENDED.

SO,
ABOUT
YUMEKO
JABAMI.

SHUT
UP,
YOU.

OH,
AND JUST
WHO WAS
IT WHO
GAVE HER
A RECOM-
MENDA-
TION?

THIS
IS WHY
I WAS
AGAINST
HER
JOINING
US...

WELL,
SHE WAS
GETTING
COCKY OVER
BEATING
SMALL-
FRIES.

SO
THERE'S
NOTHING
WE
COULD DO
ABOUT HER
SHAMEFUL
DISPLAY.

WELL, TO
BE FAIR,
SUMERAGI
DID ONLY
ENTER THE
STUDENT
COUNCIL
VIA LARGE
PAYMENTS
TO US.

TO
BEAT
SUMERAGI-
CHAN RIGHT
AFTER
TRANSFER-
RING IN...
THE NEW
GIRL
SOUNDS
PRETTY
AWESOME.
☆

WHOA-
HO.

WHAT'RE
WE GOING
TO DO
ABOUT
HER?





**NOW
INTER-
ESTING.**

**WHY
DON'T
WE TRY
TO MEDDLE
WITH HER
A BIT?**



**THE
105TH
STUDENT
COUNCIL
PRESI-
DENT—
KIRARI
MOMO-
BAMI**

CHAPTER THREE
THE SLIT-EYED GIRL





THERE'S THIS NICE CAFE NEARBY THAT MAKES GREAT CAKE. WANT TO GO THERE AFTER SCHOOL?

LET'S HAVE SOME TEA AND CHAT ABOUT STUFF!

JABAMI-SAN, YOU'RE REALLY AMAZING AT GAMBLING. ♪



YEAH. I'D BE GLAD TO GO WITH YOU.

BUT I'VE GOT PLANS TODAY, SO LET'S DO IT ANOTHER TIME.



...WHILE
SAOTOME
IS MADE A
HOUSEPET AND
DROPPED TO
LOW CLASS.

SECOND
YEAR
CHERRY
BLOSSOM
CLASS
IS STILL
CONCEN-
TRATING
ON
YUMEKO...

A
WEEK
LATER
...

HUH?
WE COULD
SHOW YOU
AROUND THE
ACADEMY
TOO,
Y'KNOW.

SURE.
NO PROB-
LEM.

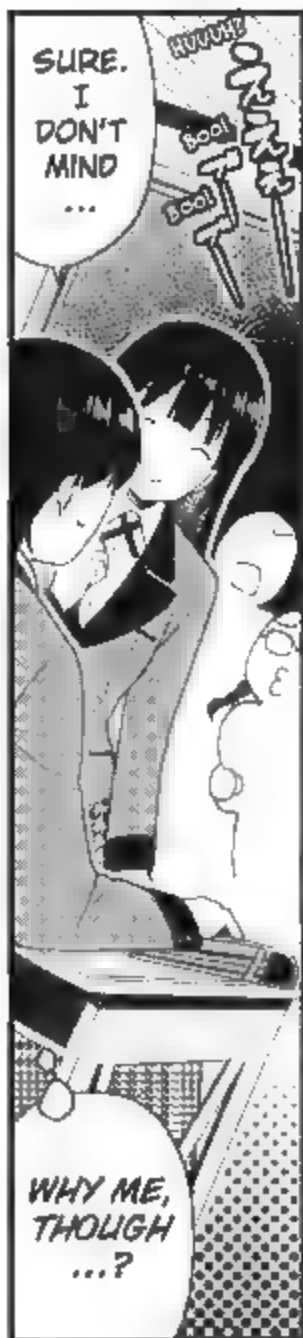
THANK
YOU FOR
THE
OFFER.

WOULD
YOU MIND
SHOWING
ME
AROUND
THE
ACADEMY
AGAIN
TODAY?

SO,
SUZUI-
SAN.

AH,
THE
END-OF-
THE-DAY
CHIME.

CLACK
!!



SIGN: CALM RETREAT





YOU ARE
IN LUCK,
HONORED
GUESTS.
THERE IS
A PUBLIC
MATCH IN
PROGRESS
RIGHT
NOW.

IF YOU
WANT
TO PLAY
HANAFUDA
OR DICE
GAMES,
THIS IS
THE
PLACE.

WOW.

HOW
ABOUT
HEADING
OVER TO
WATCH
IT?

WELCOME
TO THE
TRADI-
TIONAL
CULTURE
CLUB!



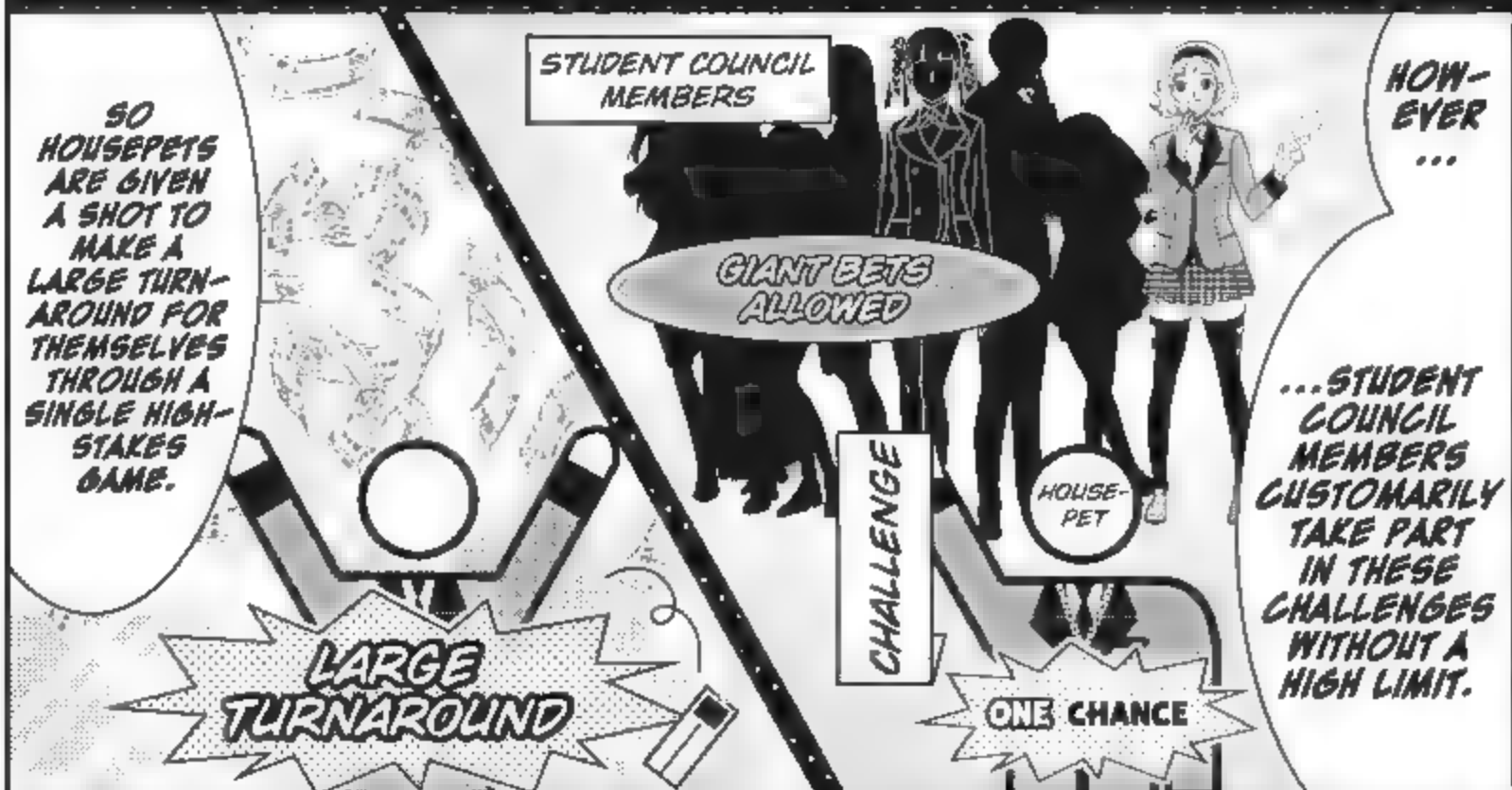
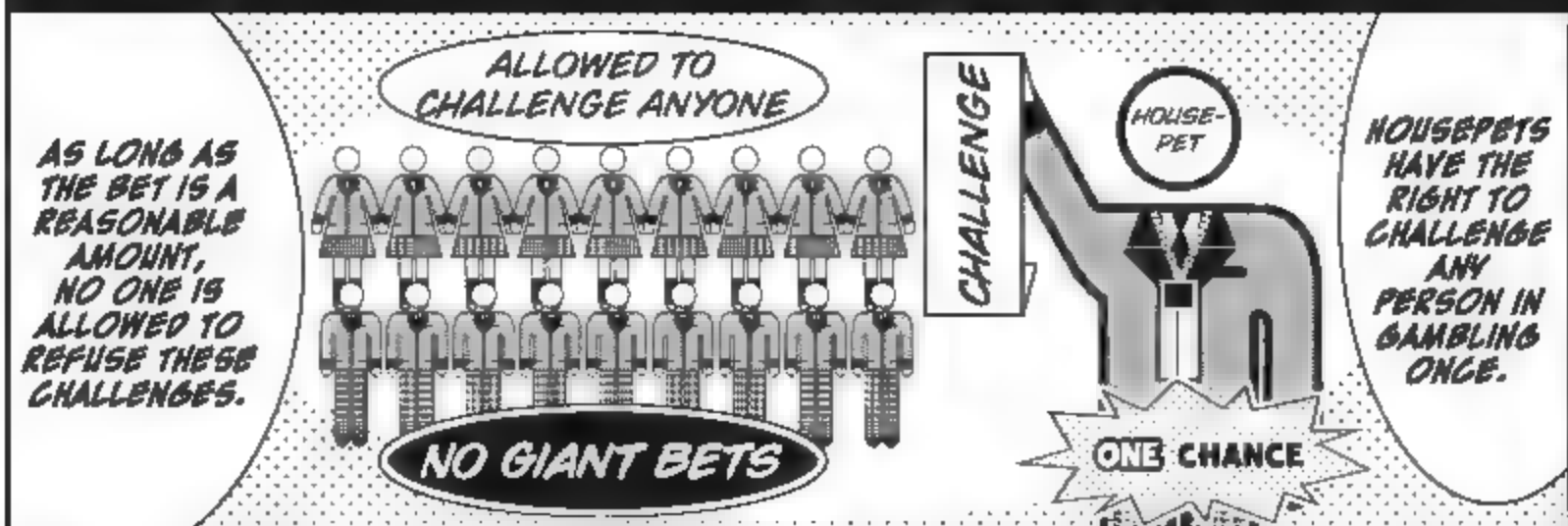
OH,
THAT'S
RIGHT,
YUMEKO.
YOU DON'T
KNOW.

?
A PUBLIC
MATCH?



...IS THE
ONE AND
ONLY THING
HOUSEPETS
HAVE A
RIGHT
TO.

A PUBLIC
MATCH...





YURIKO
NISHINO-
TOUIN-
SAMA.

THE
CURRENT
WAGER
IS...

...TEN
MILLION
YEN.



AH...!



SHUT
...

...UP.



IT'S
FAR TO
EARLY FOR
YOU TO
CONSIDER
GIVING
UP.
♡

WHAT'S THE
MATTER?
YOU'VE
STILL GOT
PLENTY OF
CHANCES
TO TURN
THINGS
AROUND.



**THIS
IS
BAD.**





AT
THIS
RATE,
I'M
GONNA
LOSE...

I'LL
BE
RUINED.



THIS
IS THE
FIRST
TIME
WE'VE
GAM-
BLED IN
A WHILE.
WHY NOT
ENJOY
IT?

COME
NOW.
NO NEED
TO MAKE
SUCH AN
ANGRY
FACE.



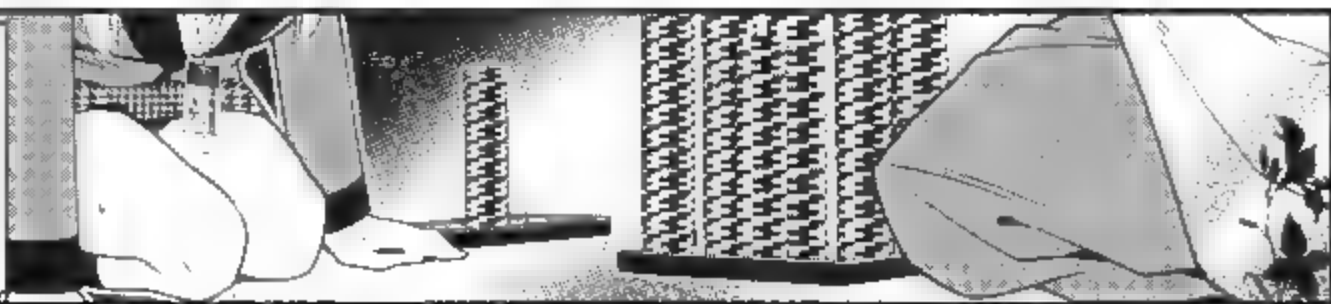
DAMN!

SHE'S
SPEAKING
SUCH
DAMNED
NON-
SENSE...

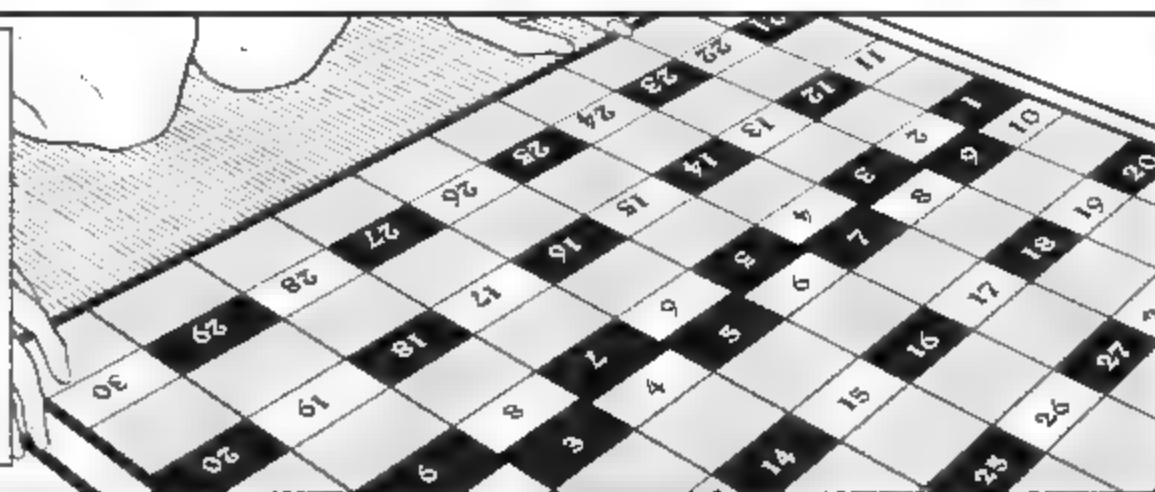
SQUEEZE

SHE'S
GOT
168
CHIPS
TO
MY
32...

THERE'S A
DIFFERENCE
OF 136
CHIPS...



SO WHY
IS THIS
GAME SO
ONE-
SIDED?



IN A GAME
LIKE THIS
WHERE
WE
PREDICT
THE
NUMBERS
ON DICE,
THERE'S
REALLY
NO SKILL
INVOLVED.



...CHEATING!

IT IS A BIT
SLOW, BUT
NISHINOTQUIN
CERTAINLY IS
WINNING BIT
BY BIT.



SO UNLESS
I JUST
HAVE REALLY
BAD LUCK,
THEN THE
ONLY THING I
CAN THINK OF
BEHIND THIS IS
THAT SHE'S...



...
THIRTY-
TWO
CHIPS.

HOW
MUCH
WILL YOU
WAGER?

I DON'T
KNOW
HOW SHE'S
DOING IT,
AND I DON'T
HAVE ANY
PROOF...

BUT...

...I
CAN STILL
TURN THIS
AROUND
...!

YES.
OF
COURSE.

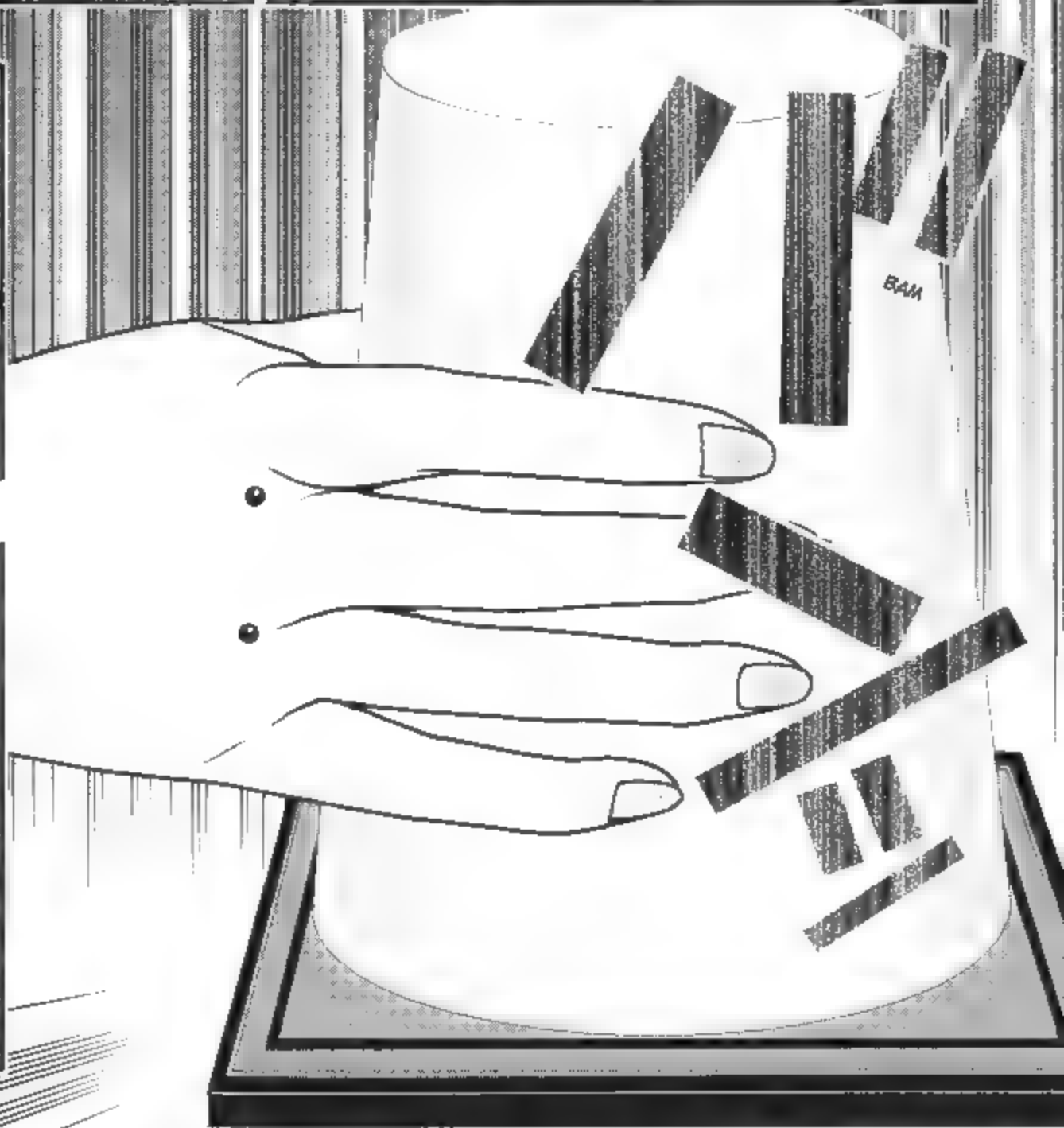
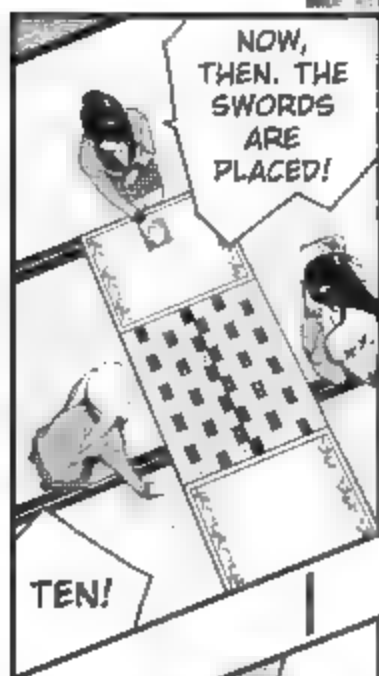
ARE YOU
OKAY WITH
WAGERING
THIRTY-
TWO
CHIPS?

IT
SEEMS
THE END
OF THE
MATCH IS
NEAR,
THEN.

MY,
MY...
YOU'RE
BET-
TING
ALL OF
YOUR
RE-
MAINING
CHIPS?



ALL
RIGHT.
I'LL BE
PUTTING TEN
"SWORDS"
INTO THE
CUP.





NOW
ALL
THAT'S
LEFT
IS...

IT'S
STARTED
ooo!



ONE...

TWO.

THREE.



I
SEE.

...



NO
MORE
BETS!

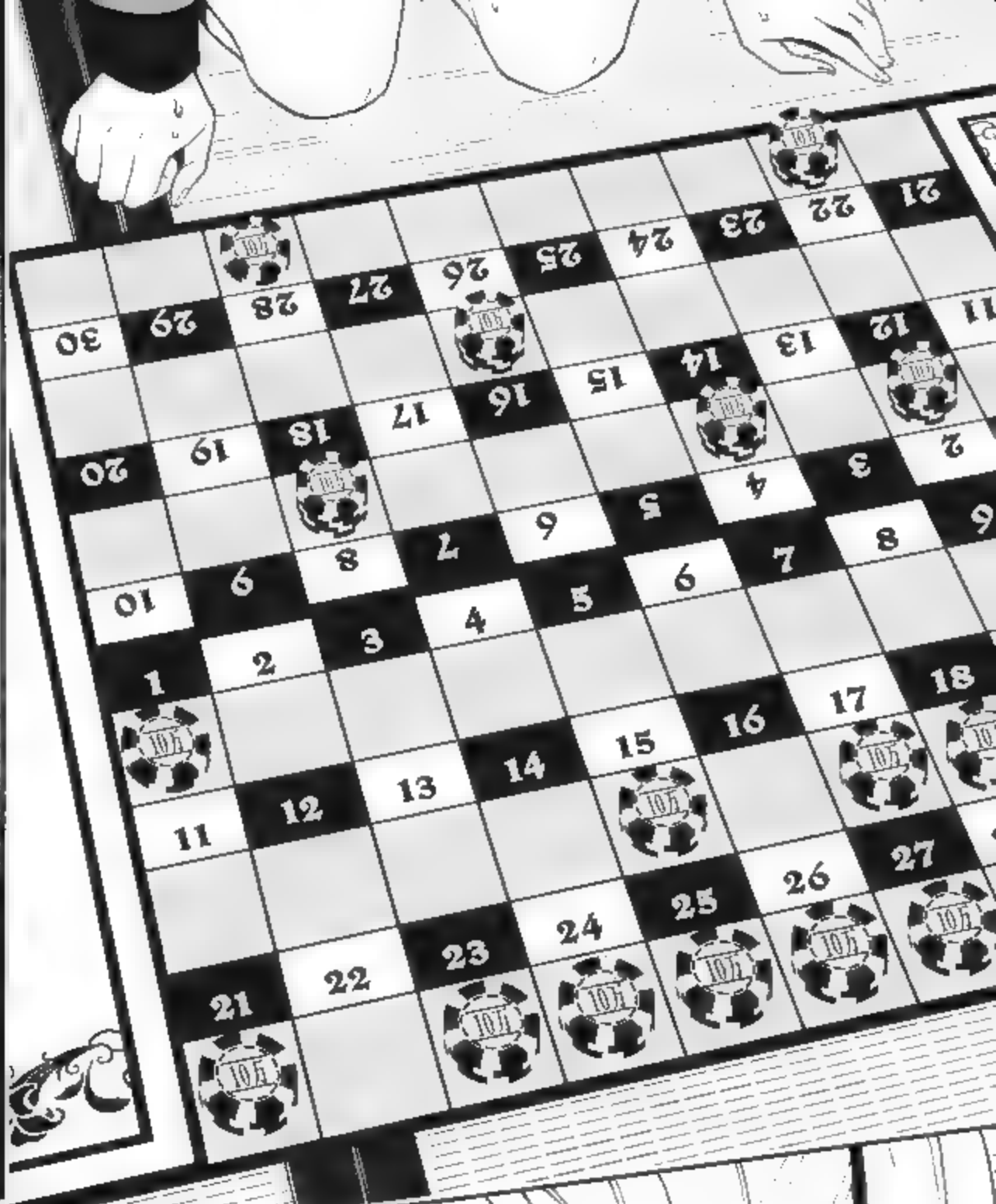
ZERO.
THAT'S
IT!

I'VE
CONCENTRATED
SIX CHIPS
ON ONLY
FIVE
DIFFERENT
SPOTS.



I'M
COVERING LESS
POSSIBILITIES,
BUT THE
RETURN IS
MUCH HIGHER.

NUMBERS: 2, 4, 8, 16, 22



I HAVE
TO WIN THE
MATCH IN
ONE GO TO
NOT GIVE
HER THE
CHANCE TO
CHEAT!

I'M
HEAVILY
RELYING
ON LUCK
HERE,
BUT IT'S
THE ONLY
STRATEGY
I'VE GOT
LEFT.



...YURIKO
NISHINO-
TOUIN!

NOW
IT'S
YOUR
TURN
TO
FEEL
FEAR...

HOH-HOH-HOH!

...



HOW
SCARY.



PLEASE, LET ONE OF MY NUMBERS COME UP!

NOW, THEN ...



TWO, FOUR, EIGHT, SIXTEEN, TWENTY-TWO! ANY ONE IS FINE.



AH...

TWENTY-
TWO!



...THE
RE-
SULTS
!

HOW-
EVER...

YOU CHOSE
CORRECTLY.

WELL,
LOOK
AT
THAT.





WH.



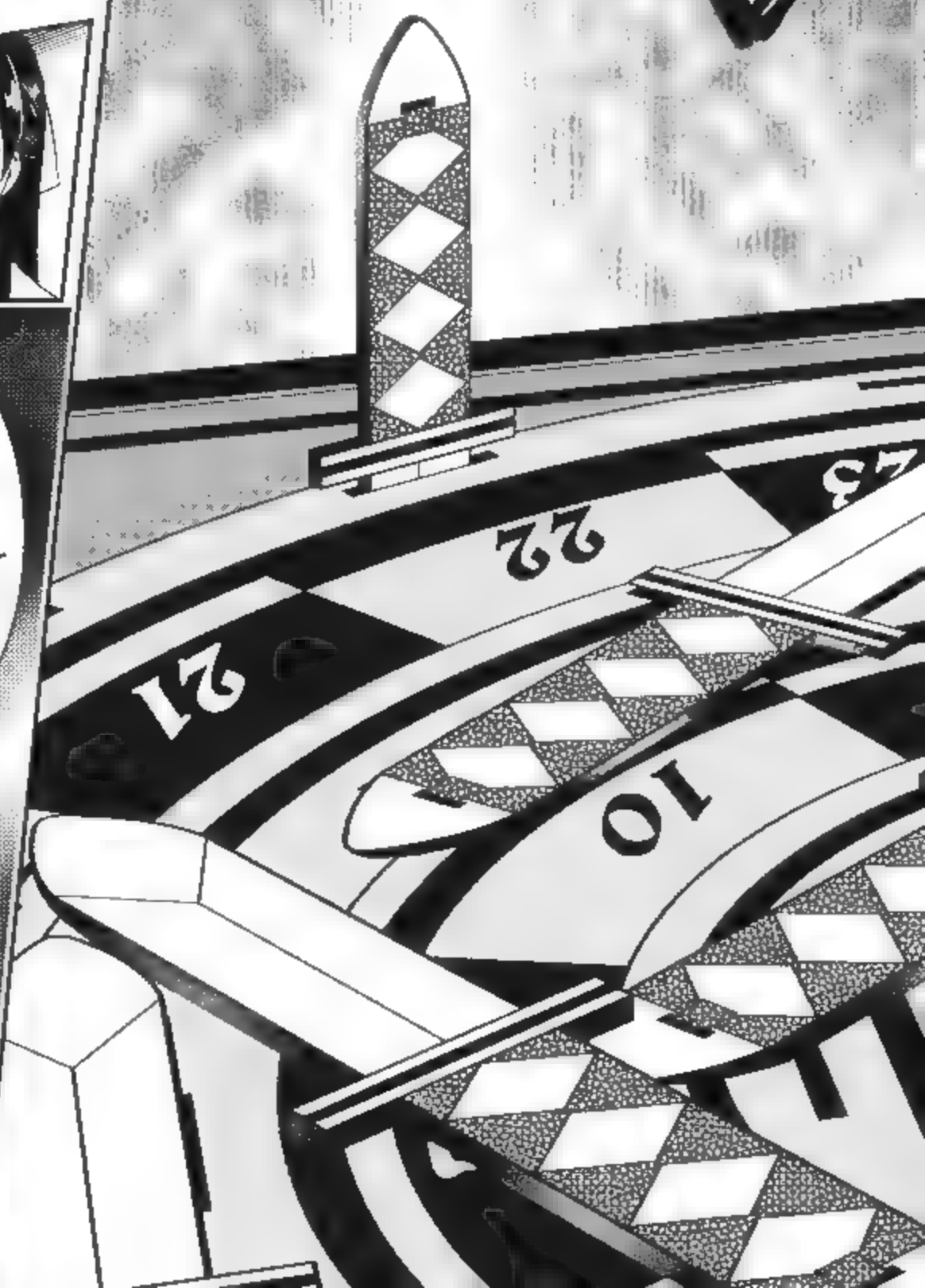
HOH
HOH
HOH.

WE
CALL IT
"LIFE OR
DEATH."

THIS
IS AN
ORIGINAL
GAME WE
AT THE
TRADITIONAL
CULTURE
CLUB HAVE
COME UP
WITH.

ALLOW
ME TO
EXPLAIN.

...YOU
HAVE
CHOSEN
A
NUMBER
OF
"DEATH."



AND
IN THIS
GAME,
WE ARE
TRYING
TO CATCH
THEM
BUT CAN
ALSO BE
HIT BY
THEM.

ENDLESS
SWORDS
ARE
FALLING
FROM THE
SKY.



...
HAS ITS
BLADE
FACING
YOUR
OPPONENT,
IT'S A
SCENE
WORTHY
OF GREAT
APPLAUSE.

HOW-
EVER...

IF A
SWORD
YOU'VE
CAUGHT





...IF THE
BLADE
HAPPENS
TO BE
FACING
YOU...

...MY
CON-
DO-
LENC-
ES.
♡

YOU BET
SIX CHIPS ON IT.
SO YOU SUFFER
A 30X PENALTY.
YOU'RE 180
CHIPS IN THE
HOLE,
SAOTOME-
SAMA.

SINCE
THE BLADE
HAPPENS TO
BE INSIDE
TWENTY-TWO,
THE
RESULT IS
"DEATH"!

THAT'S
EIGHTEEN
MILLION
YEN!

IF YOU
INCLUDE
YURIKO-
SAMA'S
WINNINGS

...

...THAT'S A
TOTAL OF
49,600,000
YEN! THE
GAME IS
OVER!





**SHE'S
GOING
TO BE A
HOUSE-
PET FOR
THE REST
OF HER
LIFE!**

49,600,000
YEN...!?

EVEN
IF SHE
WORKED
HER
WHOLE
LIFE, SHE
MIGHT NOT
BE ABLE
TO PAY
THAT...

EVEN IF
SHE TRIES
TO PAY THE
STUDENT
COUNCIL, IT'LL
JUST GO TO
HER DEBT.

SO
NOW
SAO-
TOME'S
FATE IS
SEALED.

...SOMEONE
SHOW HER
OUTSIDE.

I WILL BE
IN CONTACT
WITH YOU
LATER TO
ARRANGE
PAYMENT.

WELL
PLAYED,
SAO-
TOME-
SAN.



I NO
LONGER
HAVE
BUSI-
NESS
WITH
HER.



...!



UGH!

E-
 NG
 ER
 .

DON'T
 TOUCH
 ME!



SAOTOME-SAMA, YOU'RE DISTURBING

WHEN
DID
THIS
GET
SO
CRAZY?

...IF
ONLY I
DIDN'T
DREAM
OF
GETTING
MY OLD
LIFE
BACK.

...I
SHOULDN'T
HAVE
ATTEMPTED
THIS
MATCH.

I WAS
LIVING
OUT AN
INTERESTING
LIFE RULING
OVER THE
IDIOTS
IN MY
CLASS.

GOING TO THIS
PRESTIGIOUS
SCHOOL AND
HAVING CON-
NECTIONS WAS
SUPPOSED TO
MAKE EVERY-
THING IN MY
LIFE GO WELL...

I COULD
HAVE EASILY
PAID THE
STUDENT
COUNCIL
TO BE
RELEASED

...BUT
THAT
WOULDN'T
HAVE GIVEN
ME BACK
THE STATUS
I ONCE
HELD.

HYAKKOU
PRIVATE ACADEMY

M
I
T
T
E
N
S

STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBER
- PUBLIC FT.

Private Academy Student Council

...
THAT'S
NOT
IT.

NO...



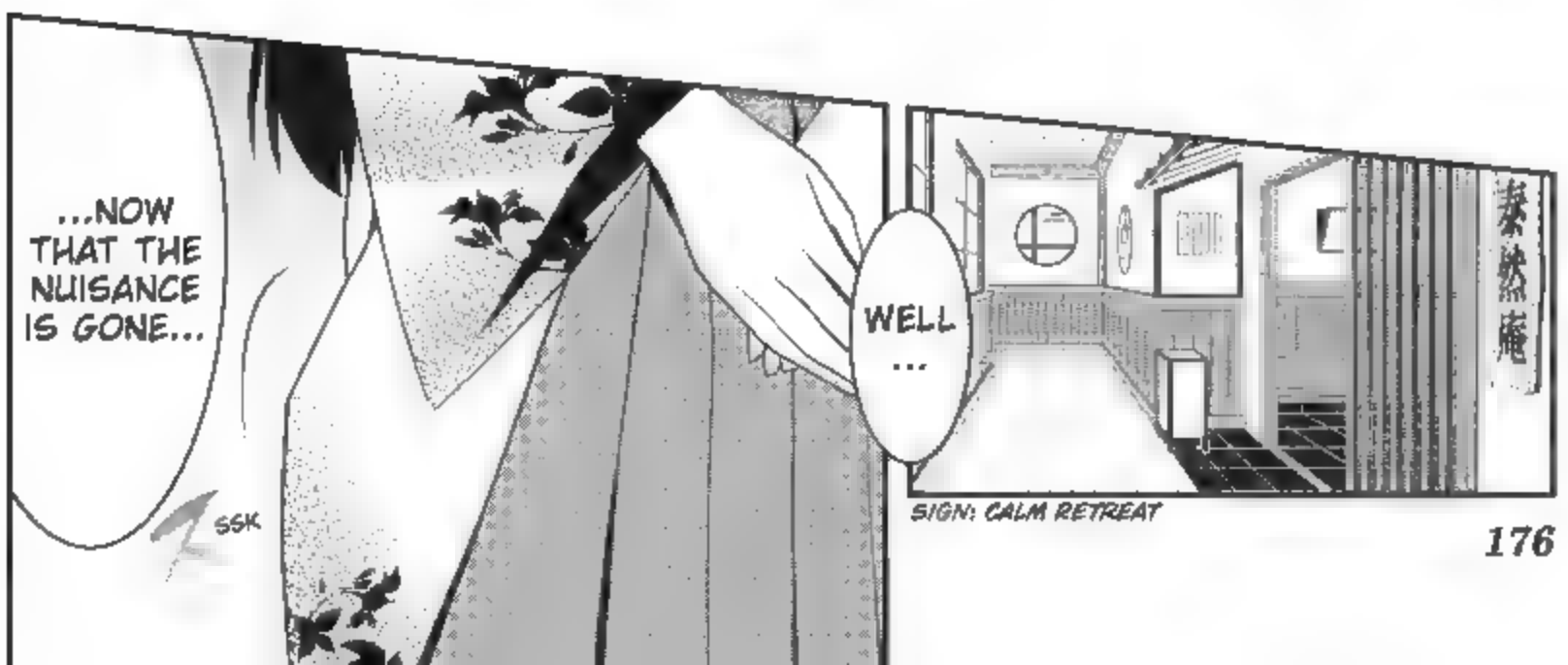
ooo
GETTING
IN-
VOLVED
WITH
THAT
GIRL,
YUMEKO
JABAMI

MY
MIS-
TAKE
WAS

ooo

oooo!

?



...NOW
THAT THE
NUISANCE
IS GONE...

WELL
...

SIGN: CALM RETREAT

泰然庵



YOU'RE
YUMEKO
JABAMI-
SAN,
RIGHT?

I'VE
HEARD
LOTS OF
RUMORS
ABOUT
YOU
LATELY.

WELCOME
TO THE
TRADITIONAL
CULTURE
CLUB.

NICE
TO
MEET
YOU.

UH-OH...
THE
STUDENT
COUNCIL
KNOWS
ABOUT
HER?

IS THERE
SOMETHING
YOU NEEDED?
I GUESS
THAT'S A SILLY
QUESTION.



WE
CALL THIS
GAME...

..."LIFE OR
DEATH."

WHAT
DO YOU
THINK?
WOULD YOU
CARE TO
PLAY
AGAINST
ME?

LOOKS LIKE
YOU CAN WIND
UP WINNING
OR LOSING
MORE MONEY
THAN YOU BET,
RIGHT?

...
HUH?

"LIFE OR
DEATH"...





TEN PIECES



NOW,
THEN.
I'LL
EXPLAIN
THE
RULES.

FIRST, TEN
SWORD-SHAPED
PIECES ARE
PUT INTO THE
DICE CUP, AND
DROPPED ONTO
THE BOARD.

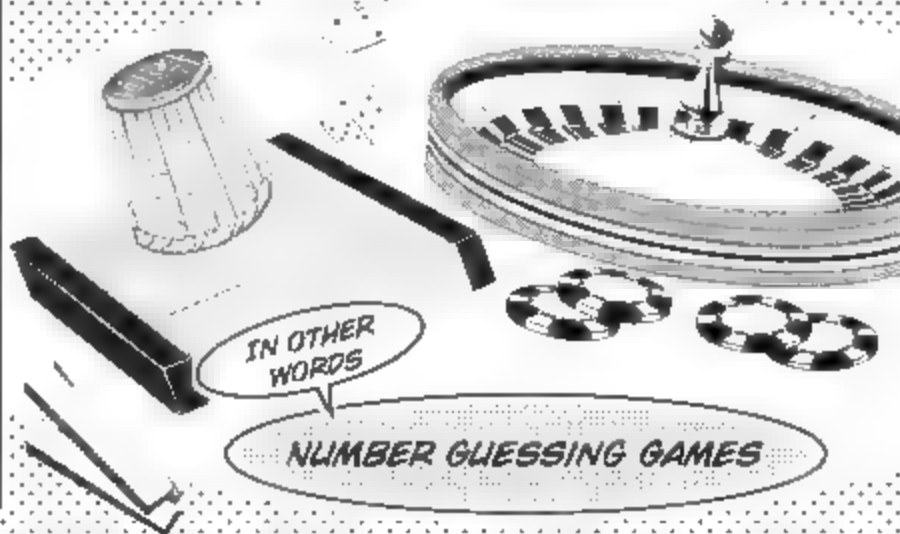
DICE CUP

THERE ARE
SEVERAL HOLES
ON THE BOARD
NUMBERED ONE
THROUGH THIRTY.
YOU PLACE BETS ON
WHICH NUMBERS
YOU THINK THE
SWORDS WILL
FALL IN.



BOARD
(HOLES 1~30)

HOWEVER,
THE
INTERESTING
PART ABOUT
"LIFE OR
DEATH"
IS...



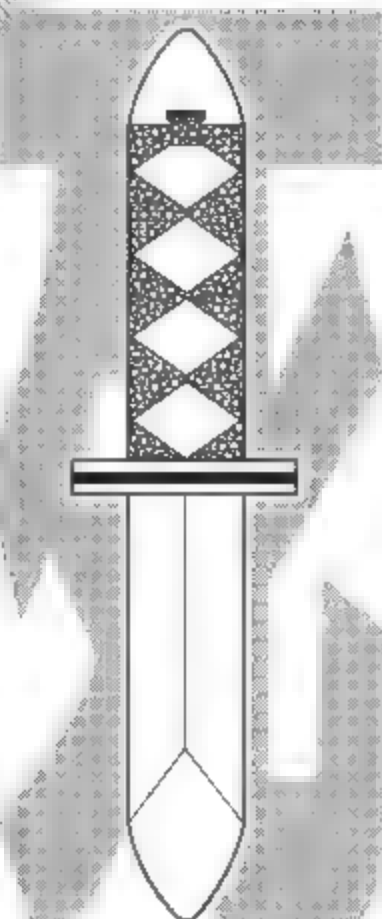
IN OTHER
WORDS

NUMBER GUESSING GAMES

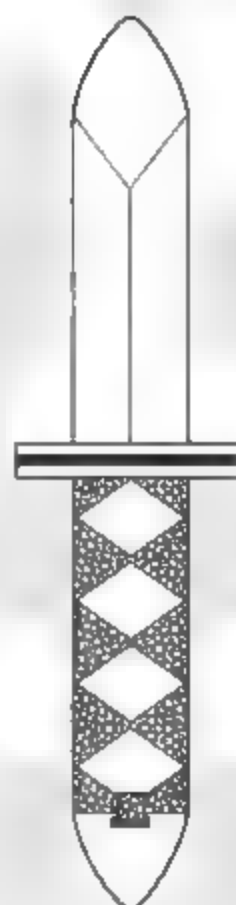
PUT
SIMPLY, IT'S
A GAME LIKE
ROULETTE OR
DICE WHERE
YOU TRY TO
GUESS THE
NUMBER THAT
WILL COME
UP.

WHEN THE SWORD IS FACING DOWNWARD, IT'S CONSIDERED "DEATH," AND YOUR LOSSES INCREASE BY THIRTY-FOLD.

IN OTHER WORDS, YOU PAY YOUR OPPONENT THIRTY TIMES AS MUCH.



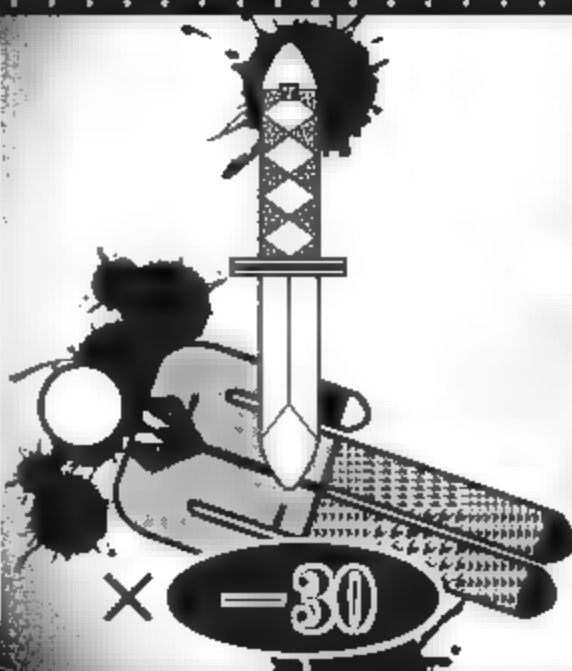
× **-30**



× **+30**

...WHEN THE SWORD IS FACING UPWARD, IT'S CONSIDERED "LIFE," AND YOUR WINNINGS INCREASE BY THIRTY-FOLD.

WHEN YOU GET "DEATH," THE BLADE STICKS INTO YOU AND YOU GET INJURED. THAT'S THE IDEA BEHIND THE GAME.



× **-30**



× **+30**

WHEN YOU GET "LIFE," YOU TAKE THE SWORD INTO YOUR HANDS AND CAN ATTACK YOUR OPPONENT.

THEN THIS ROUND WILL BE X CHIPS.



OKAY.



X CHIPS ?



BEFORE EACH GAME, BOTH PLAYERS MUST AGREE ON THE AMOUNT OF CHIPS TO BET.

THERE IS A SPECIFIC RULE REGARDING BETTING...

IF THE NUMBER YOU BET ON IS "LIFE," NOT ONLY DO YOU GET YOUR WINNINGS, YOU ALSO GET THE CHIPS YOU BET BACK. IF A NUMBER YOU BET ON IS "DEATH" OR SIMPLY NOT STABBED AT ALL, YOUR CHIPS GO TO YOUR OPPONENT.

ONCE THE ADJUDICATOR STARTS SHAKING UP THE CHIP, WE HAVE TEN SECONDS TO PLACE OUR BETS.

IF EITHER PLAYER GETS ZERO OR LESS CHIPS, THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PLAYER BALANCES IS SETTLED AND THE GAME IS OVER.

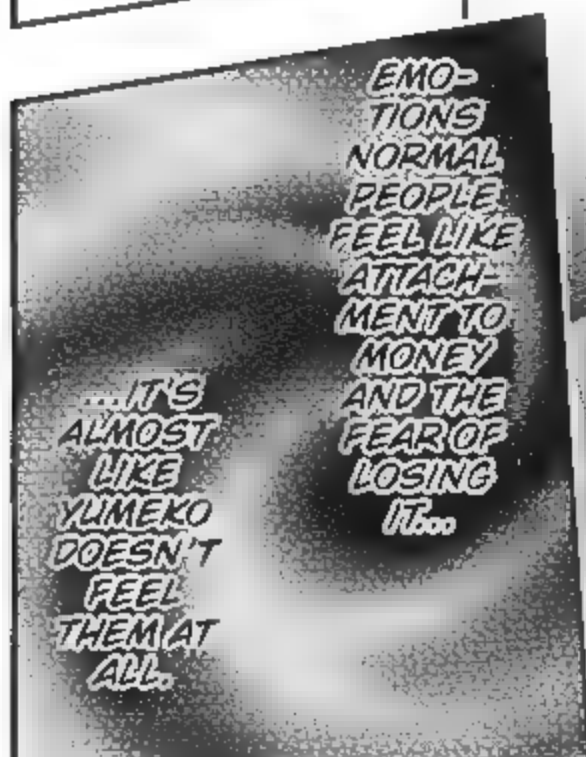
SO WHY DON'T WE GO WITH FORTY MILLION YEN?

SMALL AMOUNTS ARE PRETTY BORING.

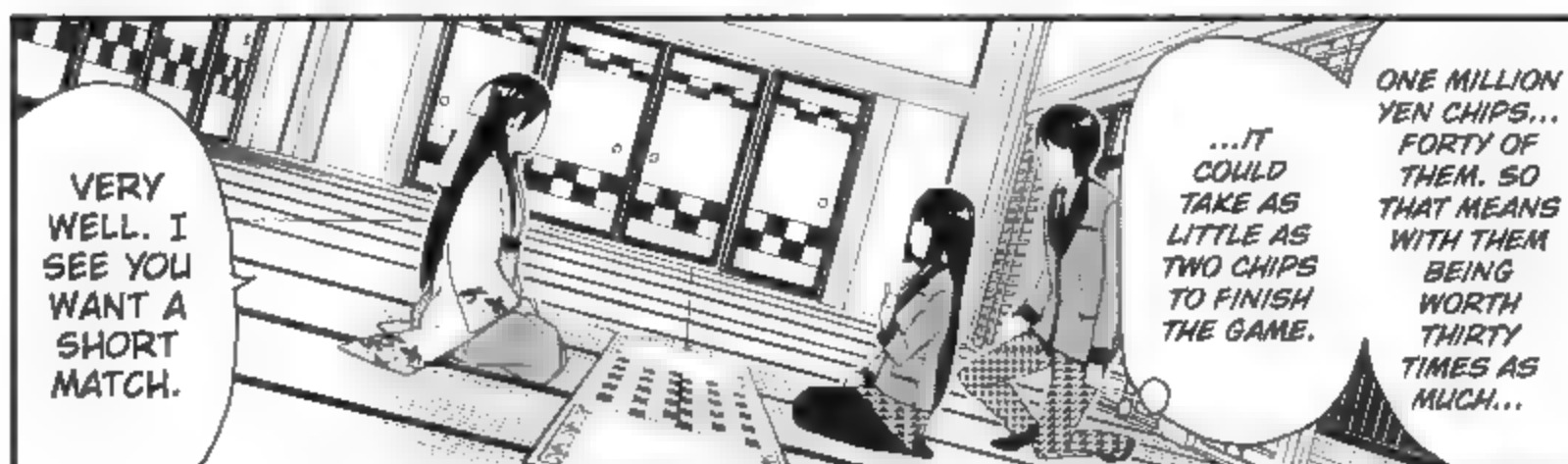
AND FINALLY, LET'S FIGURE OUT HOW MUCH TOTAL WE WILL BE BETTING.



THE DAY SHE TRANSFERRED IN IT WAS TEN MILLION. THEN TWENTY MILLION, AND NOW THIS... IS SHE JUST DOUBLING THE AMOUNT EVERY TIME SHE PLAYS A GAME?



CHIP (TOP): HYAKKAOU PRIVATE ACADEMY, (BOTTOM) STUDENT COUNCIL ISSUE



TWO OR THREE
SWORDS STICK

IN
EVERY ROUND,
ONLY ABOUT TWO
OR THREE SWORDS
ON AVERAGE WILL
STICK INTO THE
BOARD.

HERE
YOU
GO.

SINCE
THIS IS
YOUR FIRST
TIME PLAYING
"LIFE OR
DEATH," I'LL
GIVE YOU A
HINT.

IF YOU
DON'T BET
ON LOTS OF
NUMBERS,
THE CHANCES
OF YOU
WINNING
WILL NOT
BE VERY
GREAT.

I
SEE.

I'LL
MAKE
SURE TO
REMEMBER
THAT
DURING THE
GAME.

LET'S
SEE...

WOULD
YOU LIKE
TO DECIDE,
YUMEKO-
SAN?

NOW THEN,
WHAT SHALL
WE DO FOR
THE FIRST
WAGER?

TRYING
THINGS
OUT...?
THAT'S
TEN
MILLION
YEN...!



TO TRY
THINGS
OUT...

...I'LL
START
WITH TEN
CHIPS.

THEY'RE
DOWN!

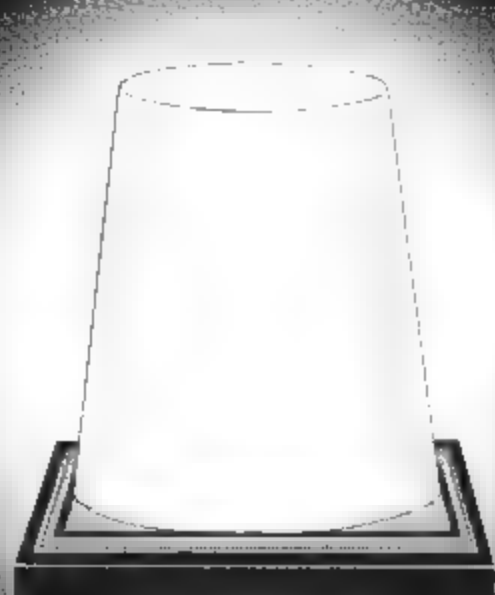
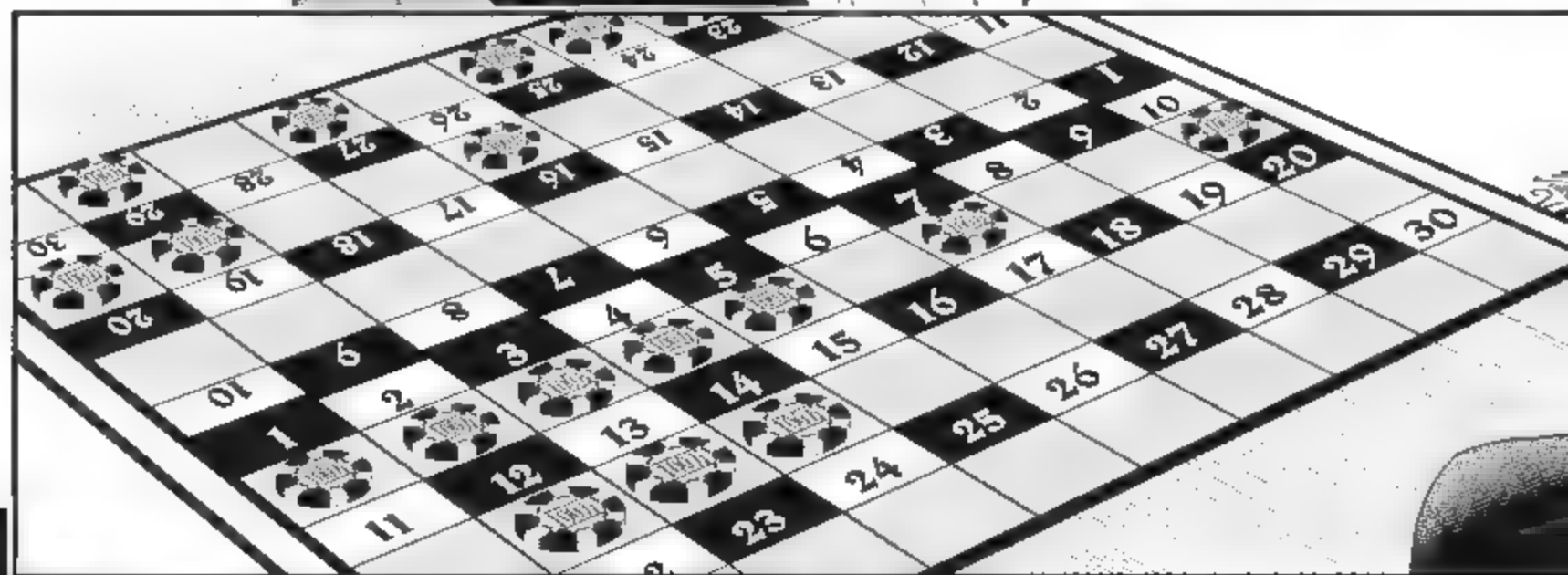
TEN.

NINE...

BANG

THE TWO
OF YOU ARE
READY,
YES?

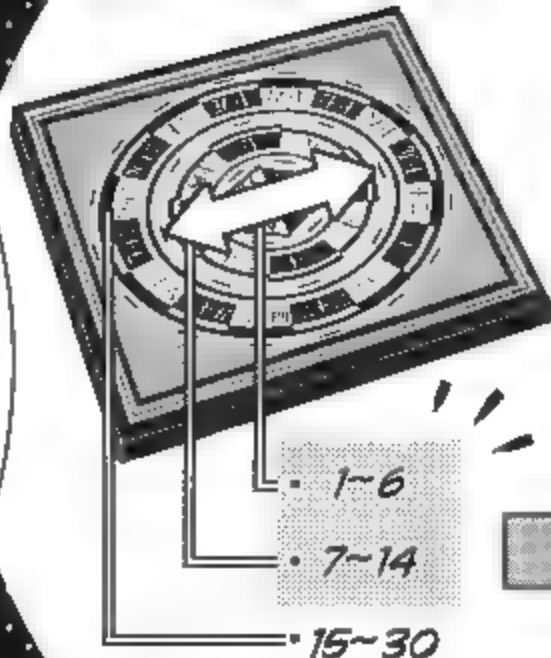
NOW THEN,
I'LL TOSS
THE TEN
SWORDS
IN!



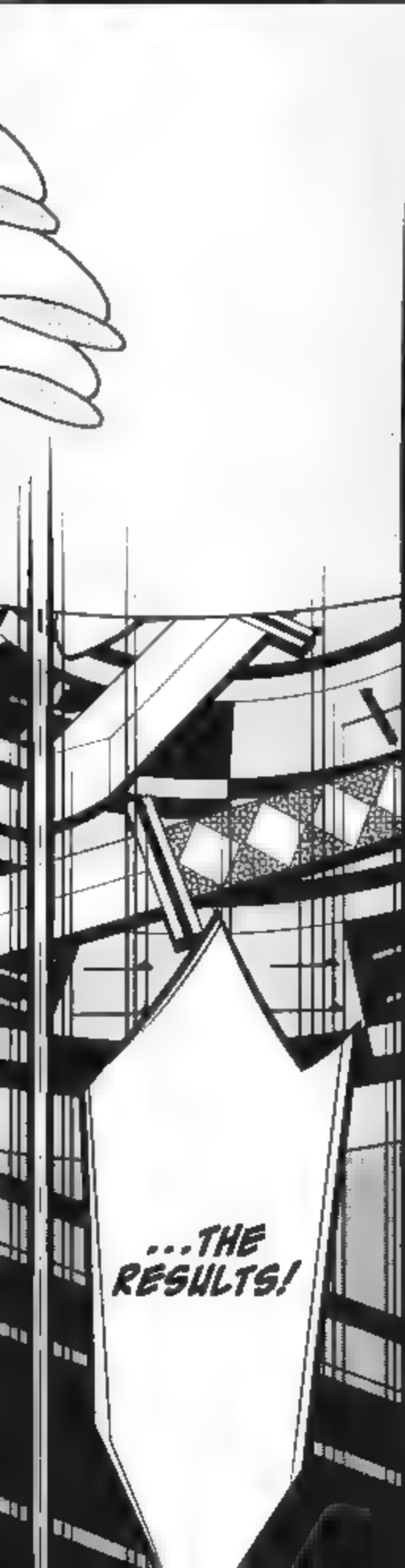
THE CUP
IS A BIT
SHALLOW
ON THE
EDGES.



IT
DOESN'T
REALLY
MATTER IF
IT'S "LIFE"
OR "DEATH."
IF THERE'S
NO MATCH,
IT'LL BE
A BORING
MATCH.



SO,
PHYSICALLY
SPEAKING, THE
CHANCES OF
THE SWORDS
GOING INTO THE
SMALLER
NUMBERS IN
THE MIDDLE IS
HIGHER.



...THE
RESULTS!



...
TEE
HEE
HEE!

I PRAY
THAT
DOESN'T
WIND UP
CAUSING
YOU A
DISADVANTAGE.

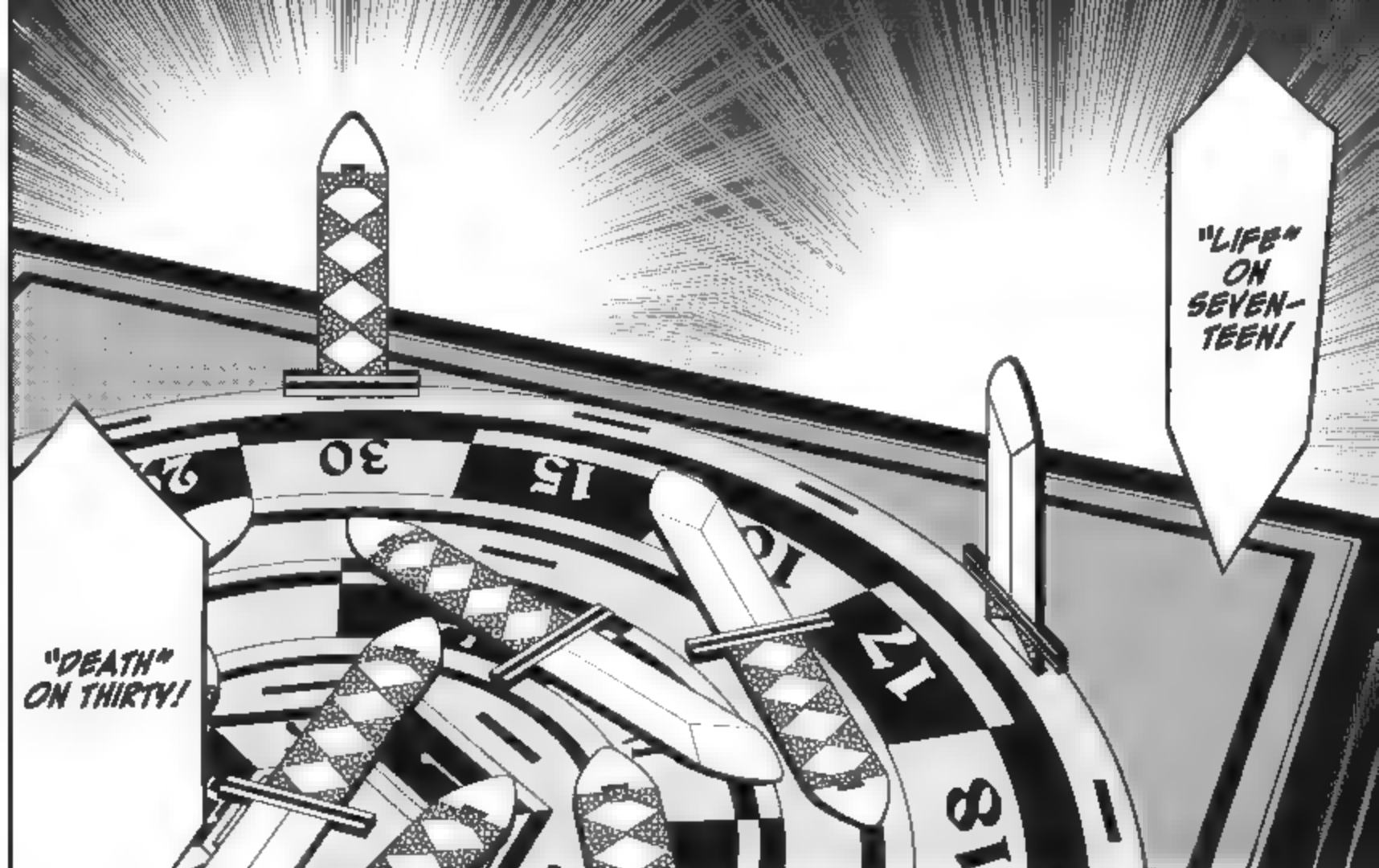


I'M NOT
EXACTLY
THE MOST
PATIENT
PERSON!

♪



NOW,
THEN
...



"LIFE"
ON
SEVEN-
TEEN!

"DEATH"
ON THIRTY!

SO CLOSE.
IF SHE'D
HAVE PICKED
ONE NUMBER
HIGHER SHE'D
HAVE WON.

AND BY
BETTING
ONE CHIP,
SHE'D WIN
THIRTY MILLION
YEN!

YU-
MEKO
DIDN'T
GET
ANY-
THING,
HUH
...?

AND
NISHINO-
TOLIN-
SAN...

URK!



UNFORTU-
NATELY,
SHE
CANNOT
DO THAT.

AS I EXPLAINED
EARLIER, THE
GAME CONTINUES
UNTIL ONE OF US
HAS ZERO CHIPS
OR LESS.

BUT...



...PLEASE
QUIT THIS
FOOLISH
GAME.

Y...
YUMEKO.
I CAN'T
SIT HERE
AND
WATCH
THIS.



SINCE
NEITHER
OF OUR
NUMBERS
WERE
CHOSEN,
NO CHIPS
CHANGE
HANDS.

THEN,
LET'S
DO
AN-
OTHER.
SO CLOSE
THOUGH.

SUZUI-SAN,
YOU'VE NO
NEED TO
WORRY.

THIS
AMOUNT OF
MONEY ISN'T
THAT BIG OF
A DEAL. WHY
DON'T YOU
SIT BACK AND
ENJOY THE
GAME?



REALLY?

HUH?



...
HUH?
?

DURING
HER
GAME WITH
SUMERAGI,
SHE SAID
SHE DIDN'T
HAVE
TWENTY
MILLION
YEN,
THOUGH...



WAS
THAT A
LIE?

OR DID
SHE MAKE
SOME MONEY
WITHOUT ME
KNOWING?



IT'D BE
A WASTE
TO STOP
PARTWAY.



PLUS,
THIS GAME
IS FUN
BECAUSE
OF THE
EXCESSIVE
NUMBER OF
CHIPS THAT
CHANGE
HANDS.



IT'S
HARD TO
EXPLAIN
IN WORDS,
BUT...

YOUR
NAME IS
SUZU-
SAN,
IS IT
NOT?

INDEED
IT
WOULD.



YES!
IT FEELS
LIKE IT
COULD
BECOME
ADDIC-
TIVE.

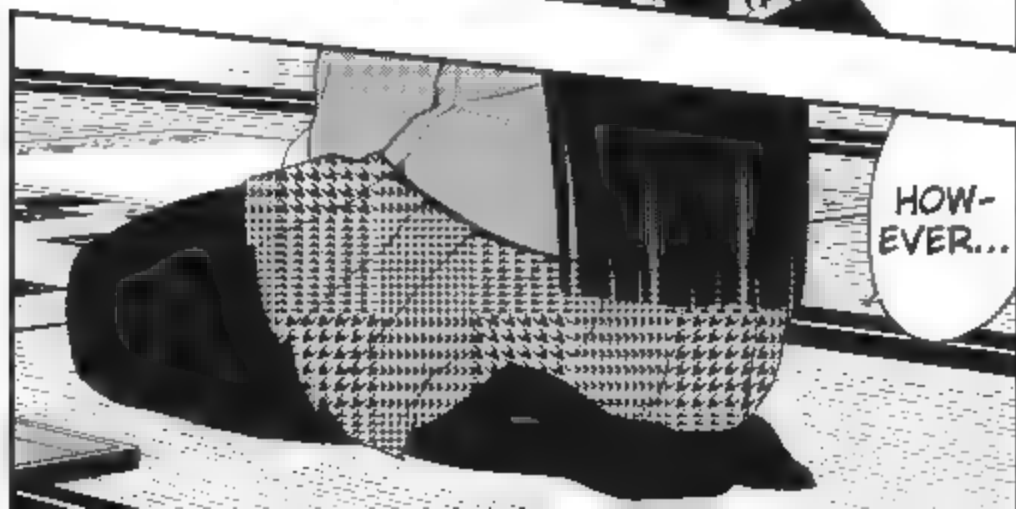
THE THRILL
OF KNOWING
THAT MONEY
BEYOND YOUR
WILDEST
DREAMS COULD
CHANGE HANDS
AT THE SINGLE
DROP OF
A CUP...

ISN'T
THAT RIGHT,
YUMEKO-
SAN?

...IT
NEEDS
TO BE
EXPERIENCED
TO BE
BELIEVED,
I THINK.



I DON'T
UNDER-
STAND
THEM...



HOW-
EVER...



**YOUR
WAY OF
DOING
THINGS
IS
TERRI-
BLE.**



**I SAID
YOU'RE
TERRI-
BLE.**




WHAT
DID
YOU
SAY?

...EX-
CUSE
ME.



...?



I'M FAIRLY CERTAIN SAOTOME-SAN CHALLENGED YOU TO A PUBLIC MATCH IN ORDER TO GET BACK HER HONOR.

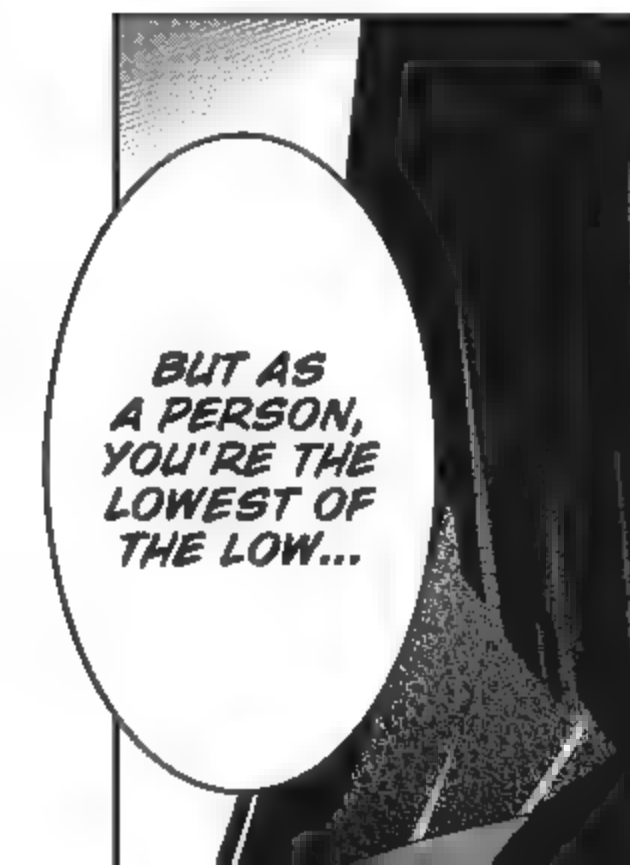
BECAUSE IN THAT "PUBLIC MATCH," YOU WERE THE ONE WHO SUGGESTED YOU TWO PLAY THIS GAME.

AND IF THAT'S THE CASE, THERE WAS NO REASON FOR YOU TO CHOOSE A GAME LIKE THIS THAT COULD EASILY COMPOUND HER LOSSES.



YOU'RE NO BETTER THAN A LOAN SHARK.

YOU'RE THE TYPE OF PERSON WHO WOULD GIVE A PERSON HOPE WHEN THEY'RE DOWN, BUT THEN BEAT THEM DOWN EVEN FURTHER THAN THEY WERE.



BUT AS A PERSON, YOU'RE THE LOWEST OF THE LOW...

NISHI-NO-TOUIN-SAN...

I'M NOT AWARE OF THE FULL EXTENT OF YOUR GAMBLING PROWESS.



**H-
HOW
RUDE!**

**YURIKO-
SAMA,
KICK THIS
WOMAN
OUT—**

EEK!

JUMP

**YOU
ARE
THE
HUMAN
EQUIV-
ALENT
OF EX-
CRE-
MENT.**



KAKIGURU
— Compulsive Gambler —



CHAPTER FOUR
THE CRAZED GIRLS OF
HYAKKAOU ACADEMY



Y'SEE,
I LOVE
WORD
PLAY.

TWO,
FOUR
AND
TEN...?
WHY DO
YOU SAY
THAT?

SIGN (KANA UNDER KANJI): NI SHI NO TOU IN

IT IS
YOUR
OWN
NAME,
AFTER
ALL.

DID YOU
NEVER
REALIZE
THAT
YOURSELF,
NISHINO-
TOLIN-
SAN?

西 洞 院
にし の とう いん
2 4 1 0 in

THE
CHARACTERS
THAT SPELL
YOUR LAST
NAME CAN BE
READ "TWO,
FOUR, TEN,
IN," RIGHT?

TWO, FOUR, TEN, TO
PUT IN.

WHEN I
REALIZED
THAT, I
THOUGHT
THOSE
MUST
BE THE
NUMBERS
YOU BET
ON.

HUH...?
IT'S
SOME
SORT
OF PUN
ON HER
NAME?

.....

COULD
I GET YOU
TO STOP
PLAYING
WITH MY
NAME?

IT HAS
A LONG
HISTORY,
DATING BACK
TO ANCIENT
KYOTO...

BUT!

IT
MAKES
SENSE
TO
LEAVE
THOSE
TWO
OUT.

**YOU MIGHT
SAY THAT
YOUR NAME
MAKES IT
SENSELESS
TO DO SO!**

二 2
四 4
六 6
八 8
+ 10
...

**YOU
CAN'T
BET ON
THOSE!**

**IF YOU
COUNT
THE EVEN
NUMBERS,
SIX AND
EIGHT ARE
MISSING!**



**AH
HA!**

**THAT'S
SO
FUNNY!**



**DAMN
YOU, QUIT
FOOLING
....!**

EH
HEH!

EH
HEH
HEH
HEH
HEH
HEH
HEH
HEH!





THE
STUDENT
COUNCIL
PRES-
IDENT
WAS
RIGHT
ABOUT
YOU.

YOU'RE
VERY
INTEREST-
ING...



IT'S A
LITTLE
UNCOM-
FORT-
ABLE
BEING
PRAISED
LIKE
THAT.



NOW,
SHALL
WE
CON-
TIN-
UE?

HOW MUCH
SHALL WE
WAGER?



HOW
DROLL
...



SO.
LET'S
BET IT
ALL.

ALL
FORTY
CHIPS
WE'VE GOT
LEFT.

YEAH.

RE-
GARD-
LESS IF IT
COMES UP
"LIFE" OR
"DEATH,"
IT'S
BORING
IF NONE
OF OUR
NUMBERS
COME
UP.

YOU'RE
GOT
QUITE
THE
RESOLVE.

...

THE
TWO OF
YOU
ARE
READY,
YES?

WHAT
COULD SHE
POSSIBLY
GAIN BY
BRINGING
THE WRATH
OF THE
STUDENT
COUNCIL
ON
HERSELF?

WHY
IS SHE
PRO-
VOK-
ING
HER?

WHA?



I'LL
TOSS
THE TEN
SWORDS
IN!

THEY'RE
DOWN!

TEN.

AND
STRESS
IS THE
BIGGEST
ENEMY OF
BEAUTY.

BUT
EVEN IF I
WIN LIKE
USUAL,
THIS HAS
AFFECTED
MY MENTAL
STATE.

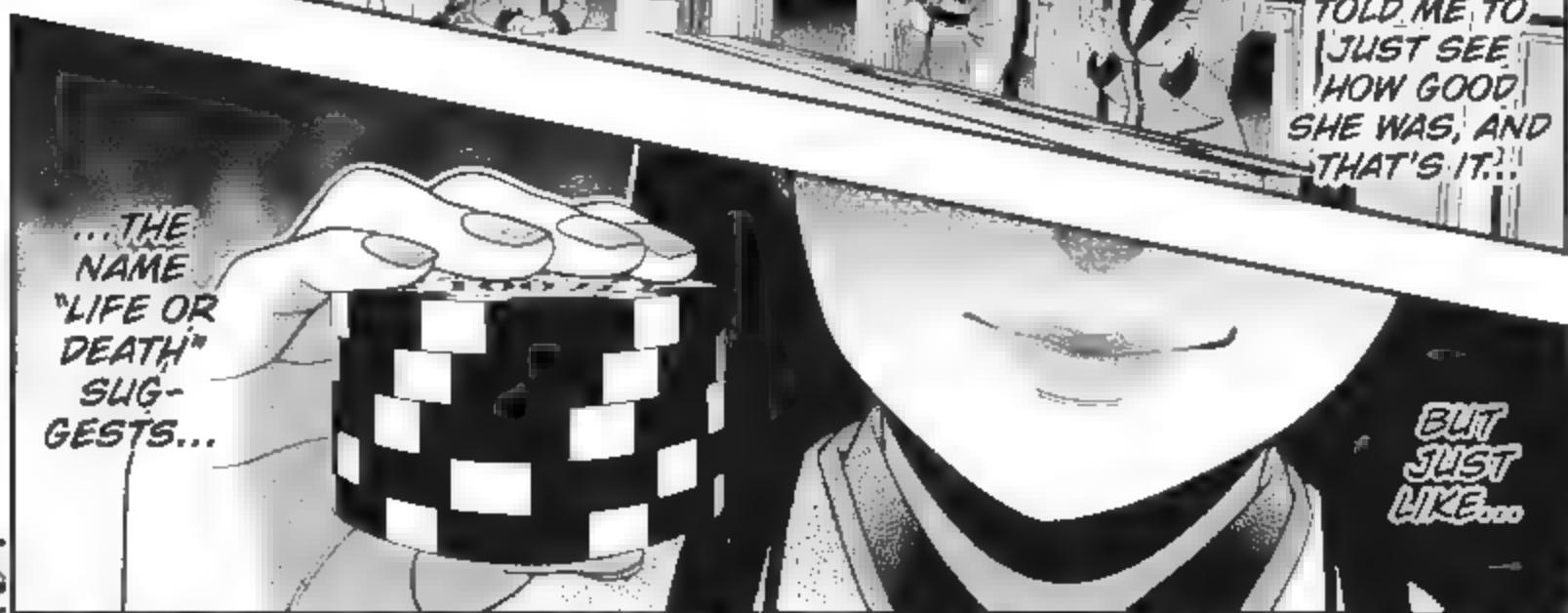
I CANNOT
ALLOW
MYSELF TO
BECOME
ANGRY
BY THESE
UNABASHED
TAUNTS OF
HERS. IT
WOULD
DISGRACE
THE
STUDENT
COUNCIL.

I
CANNOT
LET
THIS
HAP-
PEN.

NINE.

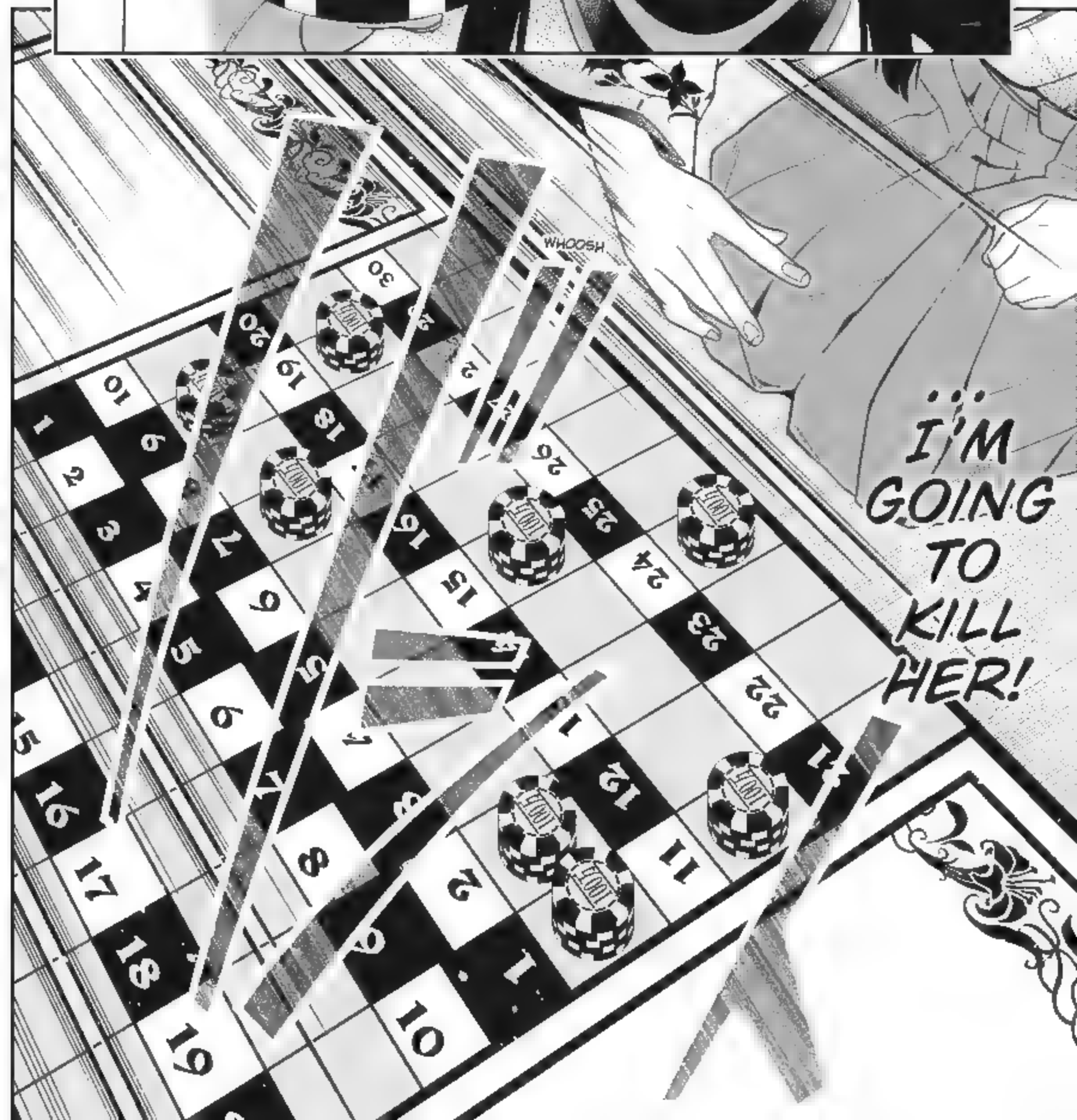


THE STUDENT
COUNCIL
PRESIDENT
TOLD ME TO
JUST SEE
HOW GOOD
SHE WAS, AND
THAT'S IT...



...THE
NAME
"LIFE OR
DEATH"
SUG-
GESTS...

BUT
JUST
LIKE...



I'M
GOING
TO
KILL
HER!



SHE'S
DEFINITELY
PISSED.
YUMEKO'S
TAUNTING
WENT A BIT
OVERBOARD.

IF ALL
SHE'S
TRYING TO
DO IS GET
THE LAST OF
YUMEKO'S
CHIPS, SHE
DOESN'T
NEED TO BET
FIVE CHIPS.

WHOA.

FIVE
CHIPS
IN
EIGHT
DIFFER-
ENT
PLACES

...

I
APOLOGIZE
IF I'VE
OFFENDED
YOU,
NISHINO-
TOUN-
SAN.

HEE!

SIX.



NO,
I'M NOT
MAD.

BESIDES,
YOU
SHOULD
BE MORE
WORRIED
ABOUT
RUNNING
OUT OF
TIME.

FOUR.

FIVE.

HMPH...
WHY THE
SUDDEN
CHANGE?

...WAS
JUST...

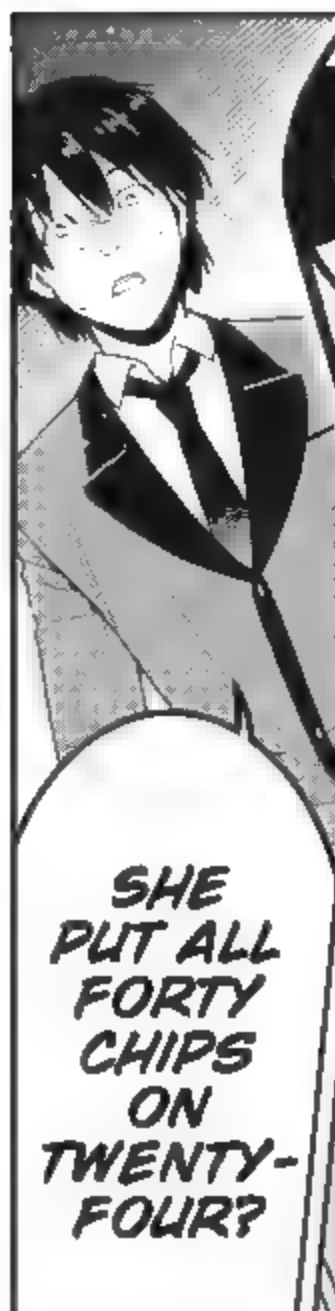
EVERY-
THING I
SAID...

...STUPID
NONSENSE
I WAS SAYING
SO I COULD BET
HERE. PLEASE
FORGIVE ME.



AH
....?





**SHE
PUT ALL
FORTY
CHIPS
ON
TWENTY-
FOUR?**



UH...
UH...

**WH...
WHY...?**



**ZERO!
THAT'S
IT!**

**NO
MORE
BETS**

...



WHA...?

TA-DA

24



**CHEAT-
ING...?**

**YES.
LOOK AT
THE RIGHT
HAND
OF THE
DEALER.**

**NOTICE
HOW THERE'S
SOMETHING
THAT LOOKS
LIKE MOLES
ON HER
HAND?**

**BECAUSE
YOU'RE
CHEATING.**

**WHY,
YOU
ASK?**



THEY TOOK
SOMETHING
LIKE AN EARRING
AND PUT IT IN
THEIR HANDS
SO THAT IT
WOULDN'T
STICK
OUT.

TO MAKE
THEIR MEMBERS
PIERCE THEIR HANDS
JUST FOR THIS
TRICK....

BUT
WHAT
ARE
THEY?

HUH?
B...



WHATEVER
THEY ARE,
THEY'RE NOT
NATURAL.



THE PERSON
WHO GUIDED US
HERE HAD THOSE
EXACT SAME
"MOLES."



...YOU
CERTAINLY
DO WONDERFUL
THINGS AROUND
HERE.
♡



HOH
HOH
HOH!
NISHI-
NO-
TOLIN-
SAN
...



...A
MAGNET
WITHIN
ONE OF THE
SWORDS.

THERE IS
LIKELY...



...BY
SLIDING
THEIR HAND
ON THE
OUTSIDE OF
THE CUP...

...THEY
CAN MOVE THE
SWORD TO THE
DESIRED SPOT
AND POSITION IT
UP OR DOWN.



...THEY CAN
HOLD THE
SWORD
WITH THE
MAGNET
WHEN THE
CUP IS
SHAKEN.

BY
USING THE
METAL IN THE
DEALER'S
HAND...



AND
WHEN
THEY
DROP
THE CUP
ON THE
BOARD
...

TO MAKE
SURE
THE
TRICK
IS USED
SO SHE
COULD
PREDICT
THE
WINNING
NUM-
BER?

YOU MIGHT
SAY THAT
BUT I WOULD
NOT HAVE
MADE A BET
IF I DIDN'T
KNOW
THE ANSWER.
THAT'S
FOR
YOU.

WAS
IT ALL
FOR
THAT
ONE
BET?

I HAD
WONDERED
WHY SHE
PROVOKED
NISHI-
NOTOLIN
BEFORE.

S...
SHE DID
ALL OF
THAT...?

I
HAVEN'T
GUESSED
THE
SWORD'S
LOCATION
CORRECTLY
SINCE
YOU'VE
COME IN
HERE.

SINCE
NEITHER
OF OUR
NUMBERS
WERE
CHOSEN,
NO CHIPS
CHANGE
HANDS.

THEN,
LET'S
DO
AN-
OTHER.

SO
CLOSE,
THOUGH.

AND
YOUR
FRIEND
PLACED
HER BET
AFTER THE
CUP WAS
SHAKEN.

SO
THERE'S
NO WAY I
TOOK PART
IN THIS
SCHEME
YOU'RE
TALKING
ABOUT!

H...

HOLD IT
RIGHT
THERE!

...THAT
YOU'RE
NOT
100%
GUARAN-
TEED
TO
WIN.

THE
BEST
PART
ABOUT
THIS
SCHEME
IS...

YOU
CAN ONLY
CONTROL
ONE SWORD,
SO THE REST
IS LEFT UP
TO LUCK.

PLUS,
THERE'S
A CHANCE
OTHER
SWORDS
WOULD END
UP IN OTHER
HOLES.

EVEN IF THE
DEALER CAN
CONTROL WHERE
THE SWORD
GOES, IT TAKES A
LOT OF SKILL TO
GET THE SWORD
TO GO
INTO THE
DESIGNATED
HOLE.

IT'S
NOT ALWAYS
GUARANTEED
TO WORK.

SO
BECAUSE OF
THAT, SAOTOME
DIDN'T SEE
THROUGH YOUR
SCHEME.

YOUR
ACTUAL WIN
PERCENTAGE
PROBABLY ISN'T
THAT HIGH,
IS IT?

SO YOU
COULD EASILY
GO INTO
GAMBLING
DENS WITH
LOTS OF
MONEY.


YOU'RE
BOTH THE
PRESIDENT
OF THE
TRADITIONAL
CULTURE
CLUB AND A
MEMBER OF
THE STUDENT
COUNCIL.

**BUT
THAT WAS
MORE THAN
ENOUGH
FOR YOU.**

YOU
DIDN'T
NEED TO
WIN EVERY
SINGLE
MATCH...
ALL YOU
WANTED WAS
TO HAVE A
SLIGHT EDGE
OVER YOUR
OPPONENT.

...YOU'D STILL
STEADILY SAVE
UP SOME
WINNINGS.

THAT WAY,
AFTER
SEVERAL
DOZEN
OR EVEN
SEVERAL
HUNDRED
GAMES
THAT PLAY
OUT IN THIS
GAMBLING
DEN...



MONEY
ALWAYS
DECIDES
THE FINAL
VICTOR.


"FOR
WHOEVER
HATH TO HIM
SHALL BE
GIVEN, AND
HE SHALL
HAVE MORE
ABUNDANCE;

"BUT
WHOEVER
HATH NOT,
FROM HIM
SHALL BE
TAKEN
AWAY EVEN
THAT HE
HATH."

MATTHEW 13:12 KJV

NOT ONLY
IN GAMBLING
OR CASINO
MANAGEMENT
...

THIS RULE
APPLIES TO
ALL PARTS OF
A CAPITALIST
SOCIETY.



...BUT
RATHER
YOUR
FINANCIAL
MUSCLE,
SO TO
SPEAK.

THE
IMPORT-
ANT PART
OF THIS
SCHEME
WAS NOT
THE
TRICK...



HOW SCARY.

EVEN WHEN SAOTOME MADE A BET WITH THE PURPOSE OF BLOWING YOU OUT OF THE WATER, YOU MAINTAINED YOUR COMPOSURE.



SURELY YOU MUST NOT THINK TOO MUCH ABOUT LOSING TENS OF MILLIONS OF YEN.



I'M PUTTING EVERYTHING I OWN ON THE LINE.

THAT'S NOT AN EQUIVALENT GAMBLE!

THAT'S NOT FAIR!



HOW ABOUT WE EXPERIENCE THE SAME PAIN?

FOR MY FORTY CHIPS WORTH OF BET, IF I GET A HIT AND IT'S "LIFE," YOUR LOSSES WILL BE...

THOOM

2.17
BIL-
LION
YEN!





THE IDEA
OF LOSING
SUCH A BIG
SUM IN ONE
GAMBLE...

OH
POH
HOH

...THAT
IS TRULY
LIFE OR
DEATH!

NOW,
THEN...

...LET'S GO
GAMBLING
MAD.

20

27

2

25

1

17

6

15

4

6

5

4



YURI-KO-SAMA
...

WILL YOU
OPEN
THE
CUP?¹

NOW,
THEN!
LET'S
SETTLE
THIS!



EVEN
IF I
DO, I
CAN'T
ALLOW
THAT
LARGE
OF A
SUM TO
CHANGE
HANDS!

D...DO I
REALLY
HAVE THE
MEANS
TO PAY
2.7
BILLION
YEN...?

...BUT
IF I LOSE
THOSE
PAYMENTS,
I MAY LOSE
MY STATUS
AS A
MEMBER
OF THE
STUDENT
COUNCIL
...!

I MAY HAVE
TO GO INTO
THE STASHED
PAYMENTS
OF THE
TRADITIONAL
CULTURE
CLUB
MEMBERS...



I...
I HAVE
TO
SETTLE
THIS...

AS
LONG
AS THE
CLIP HAS
NOT COME
UP YET,
I STILL
HAVE A
CHANCE...

YU—

YUMEKO-
SAN...

EVERY-
THING
WOULD BE
WRECKED.

THERE
ARE MANY
BENEFITS TO
BEING A
STUDENT
COUNCIL
MEMBER.

STUDENT
COUNCIL

I HAVE AS
MUCH MONEY
AND AUTHORITY
AS I WANT.

THE FACT THAT
I AM A COUNCIL
MEMBER IS THE
REASON THIS CLUB
CAN CONTINUE TO
EXIST. THE REA-
SON THESE GUYS
WERE ABLE TO
AVOID BECOMING
HOUSEPETS.

IF I WASN'T
A COUNCIL
MEMBER, THIS
WOULD ALL BE
RUINED...

SLIDE



PRESIDENT...!? WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

HUR! THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT...?



LOOKS LIKE THINGS HAVE GOTTEN INTERESTING.



SORRY TO INTRUDE.



I CAN HANDLE THIS ON MY...

TH-THERE IS NO NEED FOR YOU TO TROUBLE YOURSELF, PRESIDENT.



WHEN YOU'RE BETTING A LARGE SUM OF MONEY, TROUBLE TENDS TO ARISE.

SO I AM GOING TO ACT AS AN OBSERVER.



**JUST
SHUT
UP
AND
WAIT
FOR
THE
RE-
SULTS.**



...THE
RE-
SULTS
!



WHAT'S
THE MATTER,
YURIKO-
CHAN?
YOU'VE GONE
SO PALE
ALL OF A
SUDDEN.

NYAH
HA
HA!



YURI-
KO-
SAMA
...



TIME TO
BEGIN.



HUH!?

.....

"DEATH"
ON
TEN...

"LIFE"
ON
SEVEN!

...A...
AND...

...THERE'S
NO SWORD
STICKING
IN TWENTY-
FOUR...
RIGHT...?

HUH...?
I BET SEVEN
ON THE ...?
RIGHT
NUMBER
...?

N-NO,
WHAT'S
MORE
IMPORTANT
THAN THAT
IS...



N...
NO
WAY...

YUMEKO
LOST...?

SO THE CHIP
TOTALS ARE
YURIKO-SAMA
WITH 195 AND
JABAMI-SAMA
WITH NEGATIVE
115...

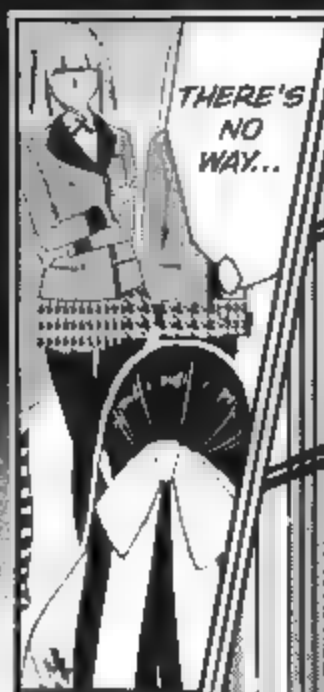
YURIKO-
SAMA BET
FIVE CHIPS
AND GOT A
"LIFE."



CONGRAT-
ULATIONS,
YURIKO-
SAMA!

AM I
DREAM-
ING...?

HUH
...?



THERE'S
NO
WAY...

HMM
...

...WHICH
MEANS THAT
YURIKO-SAMA
WINS WITH 310
MILLION YEN,
ENDING THE
GAME!



SEEMS LIKE
LUCK WAS
REALLY ON
YOUR SIDE,
YURIKO.

I HONESTLY
DIDN'T THINK
YOU COULD
PULL OFF
A WIN.

I'VE
SEEN
YOU IN
A NEW
LIGHT.

HEH.

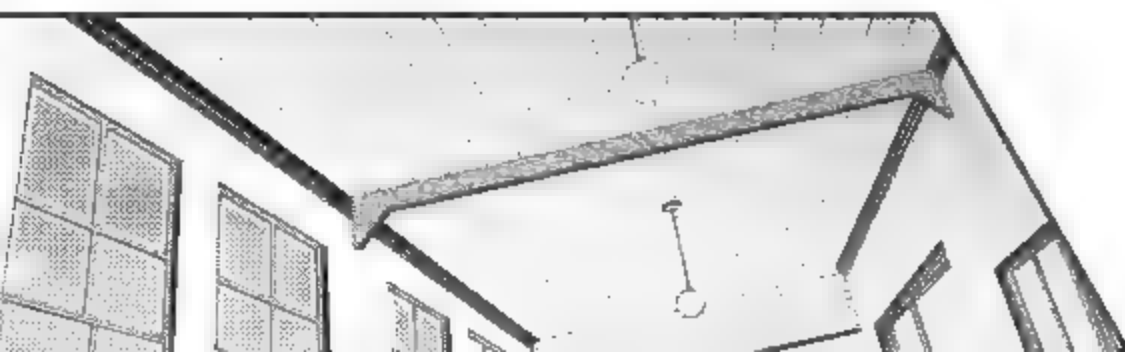
HEH.

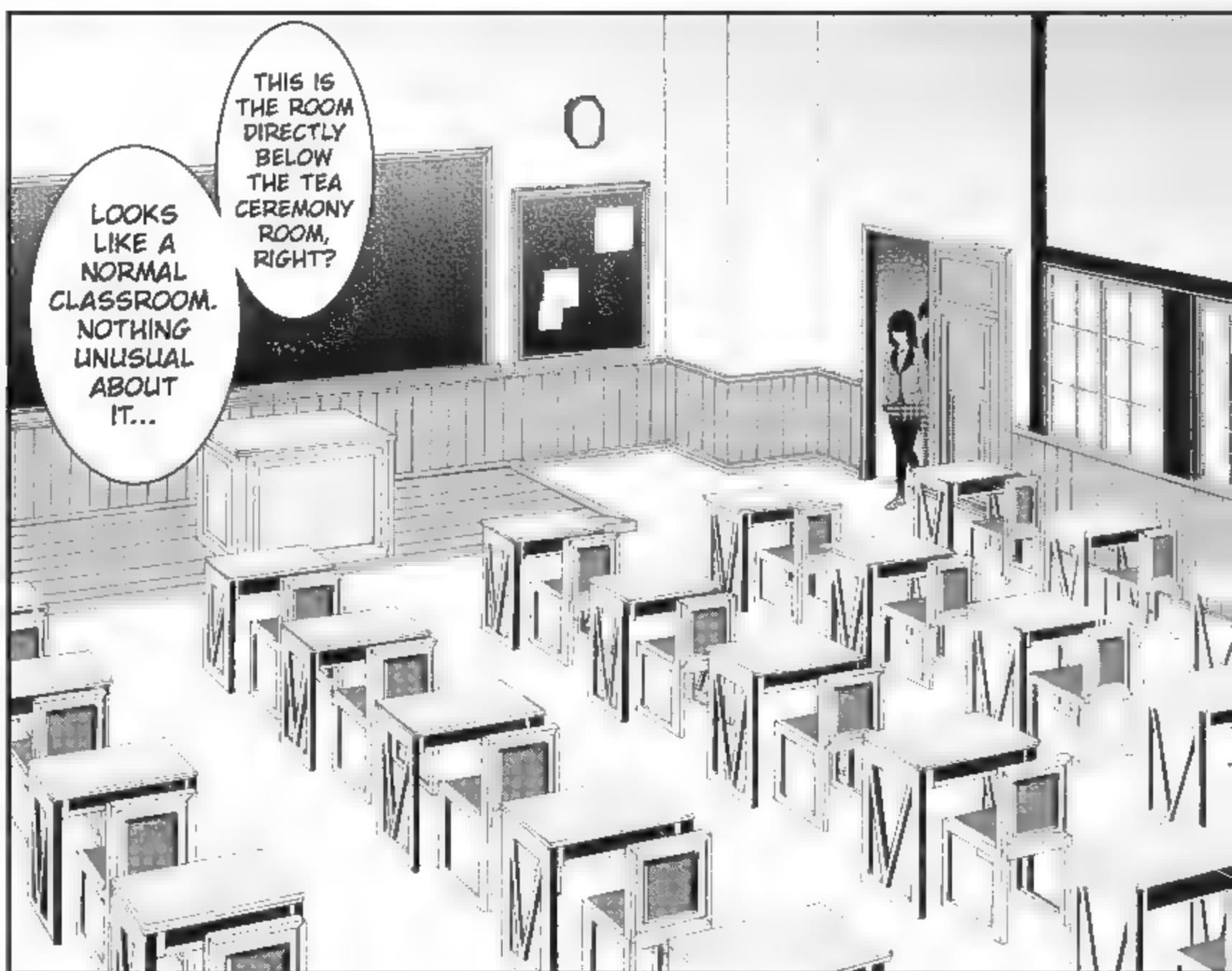
FWOOSH

YOU
FOUGHT
SO HARD IN
THE MATCH,
ONLY TO BE
DEFEATED
BECAUSE
OF LUCK.

AND
THINGS
TURNED
OUT SO
POORLY
FOR YOU.

GRIN







"**BEAR-IN-THE-HOLE**"
REFERS TO
A TYPE OF
CHEATING
OFTEN USED
IN THE PAST
DURING DICE
GAMES.

SINCE THEY
PUT DOWN A WHITE
CLOTH ON THE
FLOOR WHEN DICE
GAMES ARE PLAYED,
IT ISN'T SOMETHING
YOU'D NOTICE AT
FIRST GLANCE.

FIRST,
THEY
PLACE A
TINY HOLE
IN THE
FLOOR.

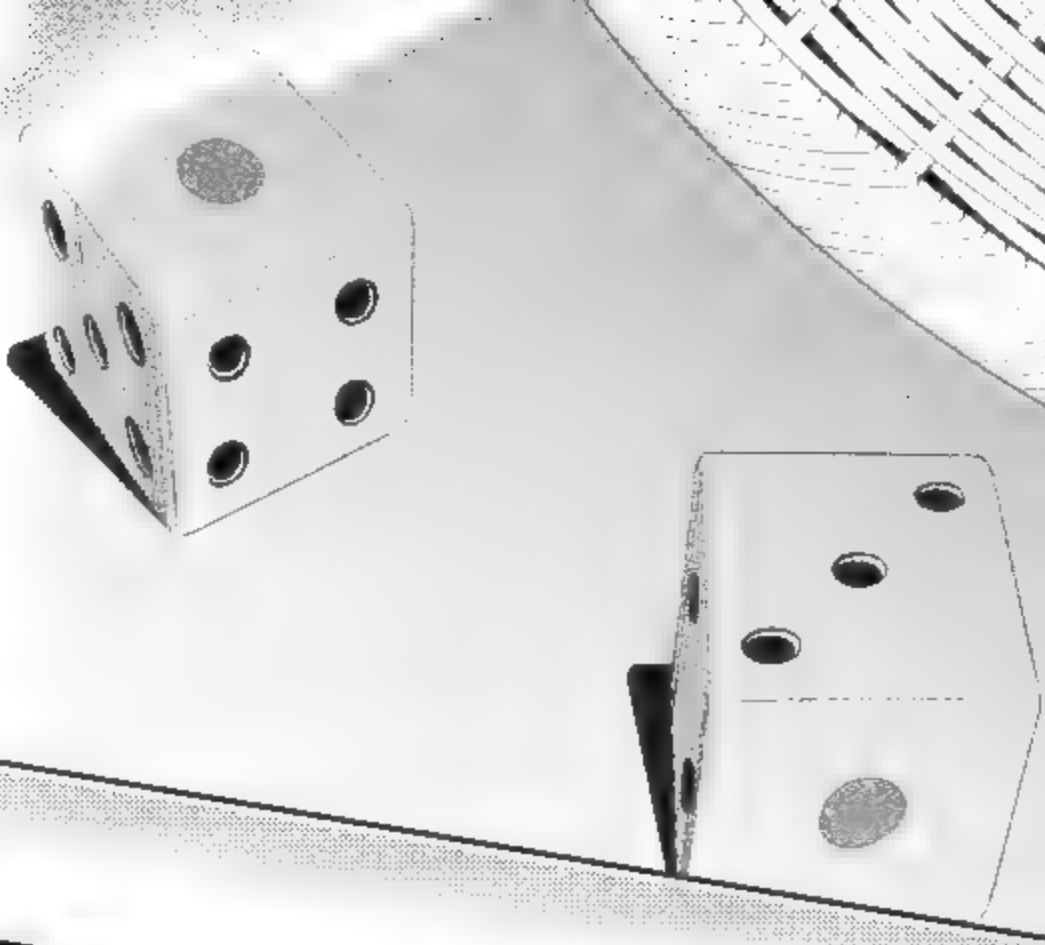


THAT PERSON
WILL USE THE LIGHT
OF A CANDLE OR
SOME SUCH TO SEE
THROUGH THE CLOTH
AND KNOW WHAT THE
DICE LANDED ON.


AND IN
TRADI-
TIONAL
JAPANESE
HOMES,
THERE'S
A SPACE
UNDER THE
FLOOR.
SO
THEY PUT
SOMEONE
IN ON THE
SCHEME
IN THAT
SPACE.

AND THEN
DEPENDING
ON WHAT
NUMBERS
ARE FACE UP,
THEY WOULD
STICK A
NEEDLE
THROUGH
THE CLOTH.





THEY WOULD
CHANGE THE DICE
SO THAT THE
GAMBLING DEN
WOULD BE AT AN
ADVANTAGE.



THIS
SCHOOL...
NO, THE
STUDENT
COUNCIL
PRESIDENT
IS FAR
GREATER
THAN I
IMAGINED.

HEH
HEH
...



THE
TRICK-
STERS
OF OLD
THOUGHT
OF SOME
PRETTY
INCRED-
IBLE
THINGS.



HMM.
NOW THAT
YOU MENTION
IT, I THINK
I'VE HEARD
ABOUT THAT
BEFORE.

BUT
WHERE
ARE YOU
GOING
WITH
THIS?



I'M FAIRLY CERTAIN THAT THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT DID ROUGHLY THE SAME THING DURING MY MATCH, USING MAGNETS.

THEY USED THE POWER OF MAGNETS TO MOVE THE SWORD THAT WAS STUCK IN TWENTY-FOUR.



HUH?

THIS CLASSROOM IS DIRECTLY BENEATH THE TEA CEREMONY ROOM. SO WOULD THAT EVEN BE...?

...WAIT, WAIT. DIDN'T YOU SAY THAT WAS ONLY POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THE SPACE UNDER THE FLOOR OF TRADITIONAL JAPANESE HOMES?

...HOWEVER, THE FACT THAT THERE WAS ANOTHER SWORD IN HER CHAMBER WAS CERTAINLY LUCK ON HER SIDE.

AND FROM THE LOOK OF THINGS, NISHINO-TOUIN-SAN DID NOT KNOW ABOUT IT.



MAKE
YOUR
OWN
...?

YES.
IT'S TO THEIR
ADVANTAGE TO
HAVE A SPACE
BETWEEN THE
TWO FLOORS.

SO ALL
THEY HAVE
TO DO IS MODIFY
THE BUILDING
THAT WAY.

OR THE
STUDENT
COUNCIL
PRESIDENT
MAY HAVE
ORDERED THE
MODIFICATION
SPECIFICALLY
FOR THAT
GAME.

IT MAY
HAVE
EVEN
BEEN
THAT WAY
WHEN THE
SCHOOL
WAS
BUILT.

IF
YOU'NEED
A SPACE
FOR SUCH
A TRICK,
YOU COULD
JUST MAKE
YOUR OWN,
RIGHT?

NORMALLY,
THAT'S
NOT THE KIND
OF THING ONE
CAN EVEN
IMAGINE...MUCH
LESS CARRY
OUT...NOT
EVEN FOR
A SECOND.

ONLY...

...A
CRAZY
PERSON
WOULD
DO
SOME-
THING
LIKE
THAT.



AH...
HOW
WONDER-
FUL THAT
WOULD
BE IF IT
WAS
TRUE.



YEAH...
IT'S A
PRETTY
ABSURD
CONVER-
SATION TO
HAVE.

WH...
WHAT
IN THE
WORLD?

THIS
IS ALL
JUST SO
CRAZY.

I'VE
DECIDED!

ALL
RIGHT.



...



**I WANT TO
GAMBLE
WITH THE
STUDENT
COUNCIL
PRESIDENT!**

KAKEGURUI 1 END.

TIME FOR SOME
END-OF-THE-VOLUME
BONUS COMICS!

MAID CAFE HYAKKAOU

*THIS HAS NO
RELATION TO THE
ACTUAL STORY



"BADUM"
"BADUM"

THIS
IS THE
FIRST TIME
I'VE BEEN TO
A MAID CAFE.
I'M REALLY
LOOKING
FORWARD
TO IT!

I HEARD
A MAID CAFE
OPENED IN
THE ACADEMY,
SO I WENT
TO CHECK IT
OUT.

WELCOME
BACK
MASTER.
♡



HELLO!

CLACK



I'M
WORKING
HERE
PART-
TIME.
♡



WHAT'RE
YOU
DOING
HERE,
YUMEKO
!?



**RUSSIAN COFFEE
(800 YEN)**
A HIGH-CLASS COFFEE THAT
USES THE HIGHEST QUALITY
COFFEE BEANS.



BOTTLE: INK



ONLY ONE CUP
HAS SOMETHING
STRANGE IN IT.

THIS IS AN END-
OF-THE-VOLUME
BONUS COMIC.

MAID CAFE HYAKKAOU

*THIS HAS NO
RELATION TO THE
ACTUAL STORY



SO I
WOUND
UP HERE
AGAIN...

UGH.



HELLO!



WHAT
ARE
YOU
DOING
HERE?

A
MAID
WENT
"UGH"
AT
ME.

SAD-
TOME
...

I SAID
NOTHING
OF THE
SORT...

I'LL
JUST SAY
THIS NOW.
I'M ONLY
DOING THIS
BECAUSE THE
RAY IS GOOD.
YA HEAR?

THIS ISN'T
SOME HOBBY
OF MINE OR
ANYTHING!

SFX: FWOMP

THEY'VE
GOT A
MENU
WITHOUT
ALL THE
"RUSSIAN"
ITEMS.

HUH.

HERE'S
A
MENU.
HURRY
UP AND
EAT AND
GET
OUTTA
HERE!

WHAT
IS THIS
"SUPER CUTE
POWER
INJECTION"
ON THE
MENU...?

WHAT
IS IT
...?

WH...
WHAT
THEY?

HUH?

DON'T
GET COCKY.
DO I NEED
TO PUT YOU
IN YOUR
PLACE?

GAMBLING, THAT IS MY RAISON D'ÊTRE.

This is a heavily luck-reliant game. As Suzui-kun says in the comic, because of an "uncertain reading," it's really difficult to guess what your opponent has in their hand based solely on the three cards in yours, so it ends up feeling relatively close to normal Rock Paper Scissors. It certainly takes a long time to play even one round of it, so it might be worth playing it when you've got ten million yen or more on the line, but it certainly isn't something you could use to, say, choose the order in which people take their baths in your family.



**VOTING
ROCK
PAPER
SCISSORS**



**DOUBLE
MEMORY**

This is a game where the difference in skill speaks loudly. When playing this for real, it is pretty difficult. It takes a lot of time to get even a single pair, so the game would never end. It isn't really stressed in the comic yet, but Itsuki-san has a really good memory. I could never play this game that well.

The rules of this are very similar to roulette, except you can get different sides of the sword. Since you can guess the right number and still get a penalty, it is a bit strange. Originally, it was supposed to be a game where you keep betting small amounts of money, enjoying the alternating results. But if it involves one million yen chips like Yumeko suggested, things wind up how they did in this volume. Oh, and the dealer from the Traditional Culture club is absolutely beautiful.



**LIFE OR
DEATH**

Thank you very much for buying *Kakegurui* Volume 1. *Kakegurui* is a manga that I put all of my favorite elements into, so nothing would make me happier than for you all to really enjoy this book. You have my thanks, comrades! I'm going to keep on exploring this hobby of mine in this series, so I'd love it if you strapped yourself in for the long haul. I'd like to thank everyone who helped me out during the writing of *Kakegurui*. First and foremost, Naomura-sensei and his assistants who made this manga even better than the idea I had in mind, with the elaborate yet bold, cute but powerful artwork. Next, my editors Sasaki-sama and Yumoto-sama who helped me with all kinds of things, like pointing out problems in my layouts, pushing me to meet deadlines, coming up with the subtitle for the series, and overall having an excellent influence on me. My friend, the manga creator Eiyuu Takenaka-kun, who gave me the chance to be his assistant, leading me into the manga industry. And then my brother, the writer Hikaru Takeno, who helped me come up with ideas for the creation and development of this series. Also my mother. And Tanaka. Without all of you, I doubt I would've been able to write a manga worth getting turned into a book like this. Thank you all so much, and I hope you will continue to support me in the future.

Homura Kawamoto



Afterword

Thank you for picking up Volume 1 of *KAKEGURUI*.
I'm not very good at gambling, so I'm sure if I entered Hyakkaou Academy,
I would soon be made into a housepet like Suzui was.
Though, being abused by a girl like Mary might not be that bad...
I think. (LOL)



SPECIAL THANKS.

My editors • Kawamoto-sama •
Imoutoko • H1-sama • H2-sama

Toru Naomura (artist), October 2014

COMMON HONORIFICS

no honorific: Indicates familiarity or closeness; if used without permission or reason, addressing someone in this manner would constitute an insult.

-*san*: The Japanese equivalent of Mr./Mrs./Miss. If a situation calls for politeness, this is the fail-safe honorific.

-*sama*: Conveys great respect; may also indicate that the social status of the speaker is lower than that of the addressee.

-*kun*: Used most often when referring to boys, this indicates affection or familiarity. Occasionally used by older men among their peers, but it may also be used by anyone referring to a person of lower standing.

-*chan*: An affectionate honorific indicating familiarity used mostly in reference to girls; also used in reference to cute persons or animals of either gender.

-*sensei*: A respectful term for teachers, artists, or high-level professionals.

-*senpai*: A suffix used to address upperclassmen or more experienced coworkers.

Yen conversion: While exchange rates fluctuate daily, a convenient conversion estimation is about ¥100 to 1 USD.

Hyakkaou Private Academy: In Japanese, *hyakkaou* means "one hundred flowers"—thus, all the classrooms in the school are named after different kinds of flowers.

Fido/Mittens: In the original, male housepets are called "Pochi"—a common Japanese name for dogs—and female housepets are called "Mike"—a common Japanese name for calico cats, which, due to genetics, are nearly always female.

Yumeko Jabami: The Japanese kanji that make up Yumeko's full name have interesting meanings. "*Yume*" means "dream" and "*jabami*" means "to eat a snake."

PAGE 200

In the original Japanese, Yumeko says that the even numbers, six and eight, are *missing between* the others, and if you put together the Japanese kanji for "missing" and "between," you get the word "stupid." To provoke Nishinotouin, Yumeko is stating that she has a stupid name.

KAKEGURUI

— Compulsive Gambler —

HOMURA KAWAMOTO
TORU NAOMURA

Translation: Matthew Alberts

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